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ABSTRACT

This collection of materials for parents, early childhood workers, the elderly, and anyone in situations requiring safeguards against poisoning, spans the years 1993 and 1994 and is intended to promote National Poison Prevention Week. The materials included are: (1) the 31-page, illustrated report on National Poison Prevention Week for 1993, published by the Poison Prevention Week Council and including a presidential proclamation of National Poison Prevention Week, remarks by several chairpersons of federal agencies at a news conference in March 1993, excerpts from journals and newsletters, and reports of state and local activities concerning poison prevention; (2) a six-page, loose-leaf "Editor's Fact Sheet 1994" in the form of questions and answers on safety tips related to poison hazards; (3) a "Suggested Proclamation for Governors in Conjunction with National Poison Prevention Week 1994"; (4) a "Poison Lookout Checklist" and an announcement in Spanish and English on prevention of poisoning from medicines containing iron, both published by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; (5) a three-page fact sheet on pesticides and child safety published by the Environmental Protection Agency; (6) a page addressed to senior citizens on safe use of medicines, published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; (7) a brochure on protection of children against household poisons, prepared by the Poison Prevention Week Council and the Consumer Product Safety Commission; (8) a list of 52 brochures, fliers, and pamphlets on poison prevention; (9) a list of officers and member organizations of the Poison Prevention Week Council; and (10) a poster announcing National Poison Prevention Week, March 20-26, 1994. (ME)

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National Poison Prevention Week

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PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

PS 022039

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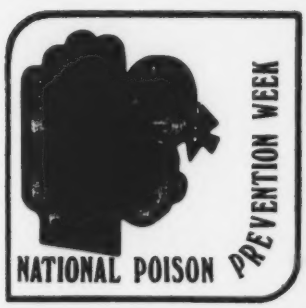
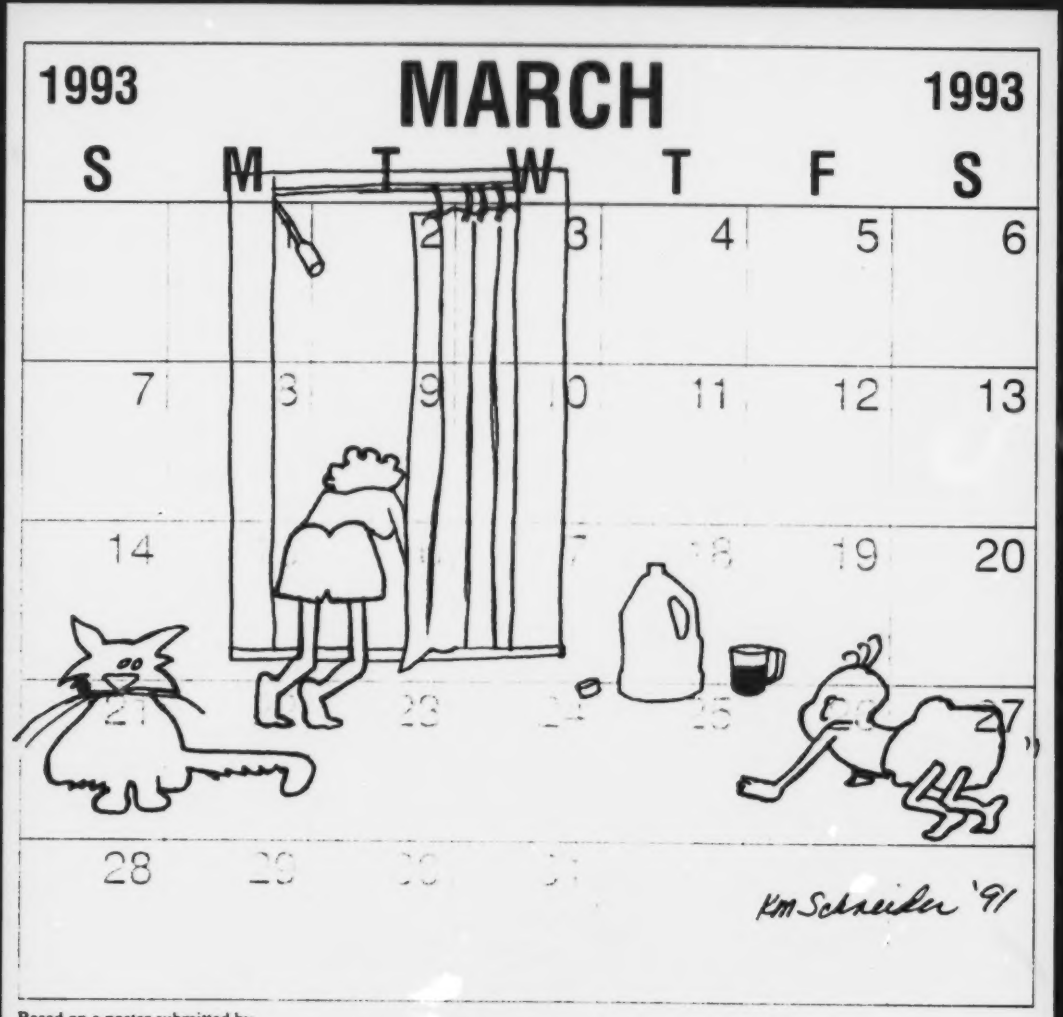
Children Act Fast..

So Do Poisons



Every Week is Poison Prevention Week



Based on a poster submitted by
Finger Lakes Regional Poison Control Center at Lifeline, Rochester, New York

Children Act Fast . . . So Do Poisons

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK
MARCH 21–27, 1993 4

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Poison Prevention Week Council • P.O. Box 1543 • Washington, D.C. 20013

Presidential Documents

Proclamation 6536 of March 17, 1993

National Poison Prevention Week, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Since its inception more than three decades ago, the annual observance of National Poison Prevention Week has saved lives. Along with year-round educational programs in the public and private sectors, this annual campaign for awareness has helped to reduce dramatically the number of fatal accidental poisonings among children. In the effort to protect every child from poisoning, which is nearly always preventable, we renew our commitment to informing parents, grandparents, and other adults about the importance of protecting children in their homes. The urgency of our efforts is underscored by the fact that, according to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, nearly 1,000,000 children each year are exposed to potentially harmful medicines and household chemicals.

During National Poison Prevention Week, activities are coordinated by the Poison Prevention Week Council, a coalition of 37 national organizations whose members are determined to stop accidental poisonings. The Council distributes valuable information that is used by the staffs of poison control centers, pharmacists, public health officials, and others as they conduct poison prevention programs in their communities. The United States Consumer Product Safety Commission provides a Commission member to serve as Secretary of the Poison Prevention Week Council each year. Since 1972, the Commission has required child-resistant packaging for certain medicines and household chemicals, preventing countless tragedies.

Every American can help to protect children with simple safety measures, such as using child-resistant packaging and securing potentially dangerous substances out of the reach of children. This week I encourage all Americans to become more aware of potential hazards in their homes and to eliminate them.

The Congress, by a joint resolution approved September 26, 1961 (75 Stat. 681), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the third week of March of each year as National Poison Prevention Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning March 21, 1993, as National Poison Prevention Week. I urge all Americans to observe this week by participating in appropriate programs and activities and by learning how to prevent accidental poisonings among children.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

William J. Clinton

[FR Doc. 93-6665
Filed 3-18-93; 3:00 pm]
Billing code 3195-01-M

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK

PUBLIC LAW 87-319; 75 STAT. 681

(H. J. Res. 358)

Joint Resolution authorizing the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week. In order to aid in bringing to the American people the dangers of accidental poisoning.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That:

The President is hereby authorized and requested to issue annually a proclamation designating the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week, to aid in encouraging the American people to learn of the dangers of accidental poisoning and to take such preventive measures as are warranted by the seriousness of the danger.

Approved September 26, 1961.

National Activities

On Tuesday, March 16, 1993, a news conference was held to mark the 32nd observance of National Poison Prevention Week, March 21–27, 1993. Here are the statements made by speakers at the news conference.

Remarks by
Rose Ann G. Soloway, *RN, MSEd, CSPI*
Chairman of the Poison Prevention Week Council
and
Education/Communications Coordinator, National Capital Poison Center, Georgetown University Hospital

Honored guests, ladies and gentlemen: On behalf of the Poison Prevention Week Council, and on behalf of Georgetown University Medical Center, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the thirty-second observance of National Poison Prevention Week.

We are here to celebrate the great strides made in this country in preventing poisoning deaths in young children, and you will hear of some of those successes this morning. It is important to remember, though, that **every week is Poison Prevention Week.** In 1992, the American Association of Poison Control Centers recorded 1,095,358 calls about children under the age of six who were exposed to poisons.

Sadly, twenty-nine of those children died. Iron poisoning continues to be a major cause of poisoning death in children. Other prescription and non-prescription drugs claimed young lives. Pesticide poisoning killed several children. One child died after swallowing a sore throat spray, and another child died of alcohol poisoning after swallowing mouthwash.

Children reach for things that can poison them, even kill them, because they can't tell the difference between something that is safe and something that is harmful. Pills look like candy, liquids look like soft drinks. Children are curious, they climb, and they imitate adults.

The Poison Prevention Week Council is a consortium of thirty-seven national organizations which works to stop poisonings by distributing information and by encouraging poison prevention programs around the country. All of us urge every adult in America to provide a safe environment for our children. Store possible poisons in their original containers, in child resistant packaging, out of sight, out of reach, and locked up.

If a poisoning does occur, help is a phone call away. Call your poison center immediately!! In a few minutes, you will hear from a formerly-frantic family who **did** call a poison center when seconds counted—and were helped immediately. Find your poison center number inside the front cover of your telephone book, and post it by your phone.

As this country reassesses its health care system, it is worth remembering that a call to a poison center saves health care dollars. Most calls to poison centers can be handled at home, thereby eliminating a costly trip to a hospital or doctor's office. Financial support for poison centers is in jeopardy, even though there is proof that closing a poison center is much more costly than maintaining one. Every American should have immediate access to a state-of-the-art poison center; call your poison center to find out how you can help.

And now it is my pleasure to introduce Jacqueline Jones-Smith, Chairman of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission.

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Remarks by
Jacqueline Jones-Smith, *Chairman, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission*

Thank you, Ms. Soloway (Rose Ann Soloway, Chairman of the Poison Prevention Week Council). The Consumer Product Safety Commission is a long-time supporter of National Poison Prevention Week, and my colleague (Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall) and I are pleased to be here today.

Our poison prevention messages are quite simple:

—Use child-resistant packages because they save lives.

—Keep medicines and household chemicals out of the reach of children.

—In case of poisoning, call the nearest poison control center immediately.

National Poison Prevention Week has been one of the most effective safety efforts in saving children's lives. During the past 32 years, the number of childhood poisoning deaths declined from 450 deaths in 1961 to 55 deaths in 1989. We believe that virtually all poisonings are preventable. Therefore, we must continue to inform parents, grandparents, and caretakers of ways to prevent childhood poisonings.

The Commission is particularly concerned about deaths from iron-containing medicines and dietary supplements. Many adults may not realize that a few iron pills can cause a child's death. CPSC requires that iron-containing medicines and vitamins with iron be packaged in child-resistant packaging. However, poisonings have happened when the caps were unsecured or the iron was removed from the original container. CPSC recommends that parents re-secure child-resistant packaging and keep iron out of the reach of young children. Last year, CPSC issued a safety alert about poisonings with iron-containing medicines. The Commission recently translated our safety alert into Spanish, and a copy is in your packet.

CPSC's special contribution to poison prevention is child-resistant packaging for medicines and household chemicals. We have here today a display of potentially poisonous substances that are required to be in special packaging. The Commission is responsible for the child-resistant packaging on medicines and household chemicals, and EPA is responsible for child-resistant packaging on pesticides. CPSC is now considering requirements for special packaging for over-the-counter preparations containing lidocaine and dibucaine (which are anesthetic medicines) and for loperamide (which is an anti-diarrhea medicine).

We know that child-resistant packaging saves lives. For prescription medicines and aspirin, CPSC estimates that about 700 children's lives have been saved since the early 1970s. The total number of lives saved for all product categories is much larger. Let's consider a hypothetical situation—Shaquille O'Neal, the star player for the Orlando Magic basketball team, was born in 1972, the same year that aspirin was required to be in child-resistant packaging. Shaquille O'Neal represents the generation of children that grew up in the age of poison prevention packaging. We can't say for sure that *he* is alive today because of child-resistant packaging, but perhaps 700 children *are* alive as a result of this special packaging.

But child-resistant does not mean child-*proof* and that is why it is important to lock up medicines and household chemicals—out of the reach of children. Today, we highlight the importance of keeping pesticides locked up, out of reach of young children. EPA's representative will discuss this important poison prevention message.

The Commission continues to work on changing the test protocol for child-resistant packaging. This change would make special packaging more easily opened by the vast majority of older adults, while still retaining its child-resistant qualities. The Commission hopes that the new test protocol will promote the development of "elderly-friendly" packaging. With new closures, more older people should be able to use child-resistant packaging more easily. Parents and grandparents and other caretakers need to use child-resistant packaging to help prevent poisonings.

In a few moments, we will hear the story of 2-year-old Jason Cheslock who was poisoned when he accidentally swallowed his uncle's aspirin. Fortunately, with the assistance of the National Capital Poison Center, this child recovered. Before we hear this story, however, I want to introduce Stephen Johnson, Director of the Field Operations Division, Office of Pesticide Programs at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Remarks by
Stephen Johnson, ***Director***
Office of Pesticide Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Thank you Chairman Jones-Smith. The Environmental Protection Agency shares in the Consumer Product Safety Commission's support for National Poison Prevention Week, and I am honored to be here today to discuss our Agency's role in poison prevention with regard to pesticide products.

In a recent survey conducted by EPA, we found that almost half of the households in this country improperly store some pesticides within the reach of small children. There are various types of pesticides. Some of the household products include disinfectants, flea and tick products, ant and roach products, and lawn and garden products. Bathrooms and kitchens are the most likely areas in the home for pesticides to be improperly stored.

Because of our concern, EPA has been working with the Poison Prevention Week Council to conduct an extensive outreach effort to help alert the public to take necessary precautions that will protect children from accidental poisonings or exposures. During the past few weeks alone, we have provided thousands of copies of our fact sheets on "Pesticides and Child Safety" and "Using Insect Repellents Safely" to thousands of health care clinics, pharmacies and the general public. These materials are available in both English and Spanish.

Since 1981, EPA has required most residential-use pesticides with a signal word of "danger" or "warning" to be in child-resistant packaging. These are the pesticides that are most toxic to children. Pesticide manufacturers of these products must certify to EPA that their product, as packaged, will meet certain standards of effectiveness, compatibility, and durability, and must have data on file to substantiate their certification. Currently, EPA has over 4,000 pesticide products with child-resistant packaging certifications of file.

Child-resistant packaging is a proven factor for saving lives. The number of pesticide poisoning deaths to children under the age of five has declined since the enactment of the Poison Prevention Packaging Act from 40 deaths between 1968–70 to one death in 1989 (last year for which this data is available).

Child-resistant packaging is designed to prevent most children under the age of five from gaining access to pesticides, or at least delaying their access. However, it is imperative that individuals also take precautions to protect children from accidental pesticide poisonings or exposures.

EPA shares the same poison prevention messages that Chairman Jones-Smith stated earlier, and they certainly are important enough to bear repeating with regard to pesticides:

- Use child-resistant packaging;
- Keep pesticides stored out of the reach of children; and,
- In the case of a poisoning or exposure, read the label for medical advice, and call your nearest poison control center.

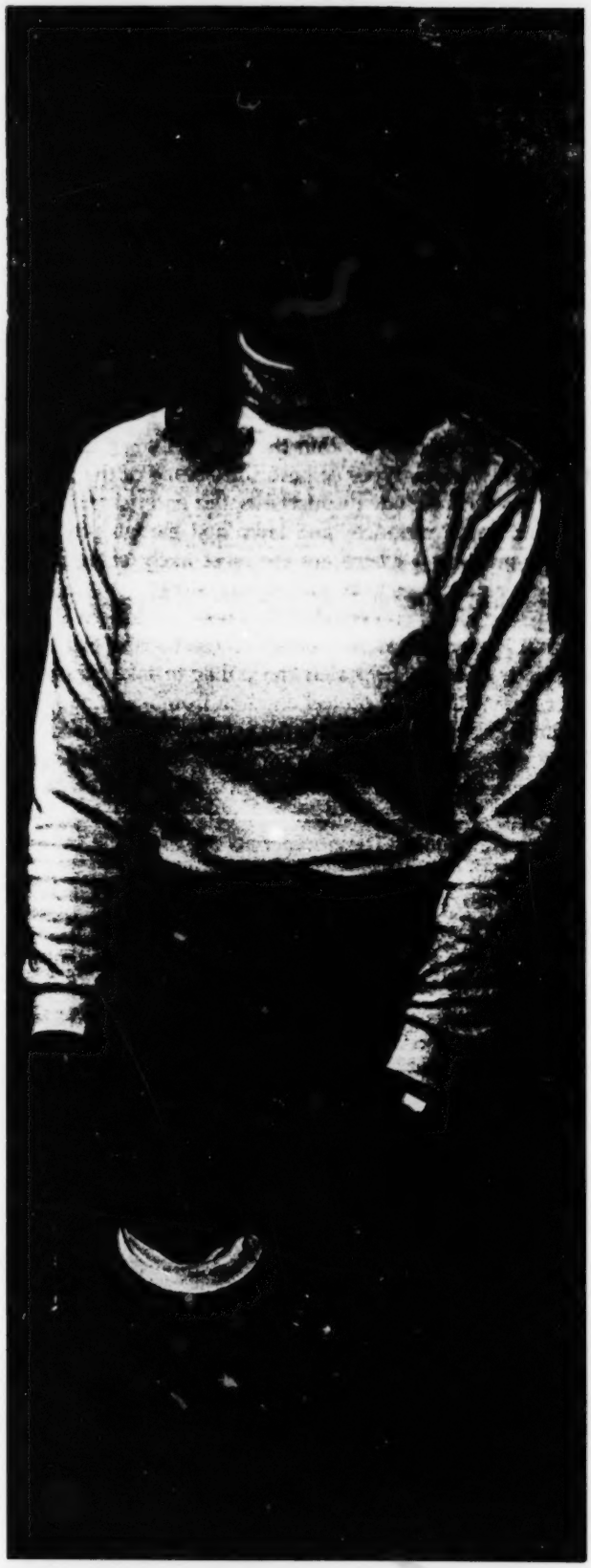
I'd also like to add to these life-saving points when using pesticides:

- Read the label before using the product, including precautions and restrictions;
- Before applying pesticides (indoors or outdoors), remove children and their toys from the area;
- Never transfer pesticides to other containers, particularly those that children may associate with food or drink; and,
- Always close the pesticide package properly.

And now, I would like to introduce Joe and Robin Cheslock and their two-year old son, Jason. Jason swallowed his uncle's aspirin. Fortunately, with the assistance of the National Poison Control Center, he fully recovered. Jason has come here today with his parents to tell us about their experience.

Remarks by
Robin Cheslock,
mother of 2-year-old Jason:

It was Thanksgiving, and we had gone to my parents' house for the holiday. My aunt and uncle and cousin came to spend the holiday with us. After dinner, we noticed that Jason (then two years old) was missing. We found him upstairs with my uncle's open bottle of aspirin. There were aspirin pills everywhere. There was white aspirin powder around his mouth and on his hands. The bottle didn't have a child-resistant closure because my aunt and uncle don't have any small children. We brought Jason downstairs and called the poison control center right away. They had us count how many pills were left, and we were able to account for all but 10 pills. They said we should give Jason syrup of ipecac to make him vomit. Fortunately, I had some syrup of ipecac in the diaper bag, so we gave it to him. And he is fine.



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United States Environmental Protection Agency | Prevention, Pesticides And Toxic Substances (H7506C) | March 1993

EPA FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pesticides, Poison Prevention, And Child-Resistant Packaging

History

- In 1972 regulations requiring child-resistant packaging (CRP) for pesticides were first proposed (FDA).
- In 1976 EPA was given the sole jurisdiction for CRP for pesticides.
- In 1979 EPA published regulations requiring child-resistant packaging (CRP) for residential use pesticides (proposed 1977).

Standards

- All residential use pesticides meeting certain toxicity criteria must be in CRP. The pesticide manufacturer must certify to the EPA that their product as packaged will meet certain standards of effectiveness, compatibility, and durability. Furthermore, the registrant must have data on file to substantiate their certification.
- EPA has over 4,000 pesticide products with CRP certifications on file.

Summary of Regulations

- EPA requires a pesticide to comply with its regulations, before it can be registered for sale and distribution in the United States (premarket clearance).
- All residential use pesticides meeting one or more of six toxicity criteria must be in CRP. The pesticide manufacturer must certify to the EPA that the product, as packaged, will meet certain standards of effectiveness, compatibility, and durability. Furthermore, the registrant must have data on file to substantiate the certification.
- The six toxicity criteria are acute oral toxicity, acute dermal toxicity, dermal irritation, acute inhalation toxicity, eye irritation, and human experience data (such as toxicological data, use history, or injury data).

All The News...

EPA Observes "National Poison Prevention Week" March 21-27

by (name not given) OPPTS

In 1991, an estimated 79,000 **children** in the United States were involved in common, household-related pesticide poisonings or exposures. In an effort to educate the public on preventing such incidents, the **Office of Pesticide Programs** (OPP) in OPPTS has united forces with the **National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) Council** to support "National Poison Prevention Week" **March 21-27**. This event has been observed for 32 consecutive years.

On **March 16**, the NPPW Council will hold a news conference at Georgetown University Hospital. Representing EPA will be **Stephen Johnson** of the Communications Branch in OPP. The news conference will stress three important messages:

- Use **child-resistant packages properly** because they can save lives.
- Keep medicines and household chemicals **out of the reach** of children.
- In case of poisoning, call the nearest **poison control center** immediately.

Since 1981, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (**FIFRA**) has required most residential pesticides to use the word "**danger**" or "**warning**" in child-resistant packaging. Such packaging is designed to prevent most children under the age of five from becoming exposed to the pesticide, or at least delaying the exposure.

Over the last 30 years, the annual total of deaths among children under five from poisonings (including pesticides) has declined dramatically - from 450 in 1961 to 55 in 1989. The NPPW Council and EPA attribute the decline to:

- the effectiveness of child-resistant packaging,
- the availability of 100 poison centers in the United States, and
- the public's increased awareness of the danger of accidental poisons.

For more information, or copies of fact sheets, please contact the **Communications Branch, Field Operations Division, OPP/OPPTS**, 703-305-5214.

National Poison Prevention Week news conference (3/16/93)

(left to right) Dr. Toby Litovitz, Director of National Capital Poison Center; Rose Ann Soloway, Chairman of Poison Prevention Week Council; Stephen Johnson, Director of Field Operations, Office of Pesticides, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Jacqueline Jones-Smith, Chairman of U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; Mary Sheila Gall, Commissioner, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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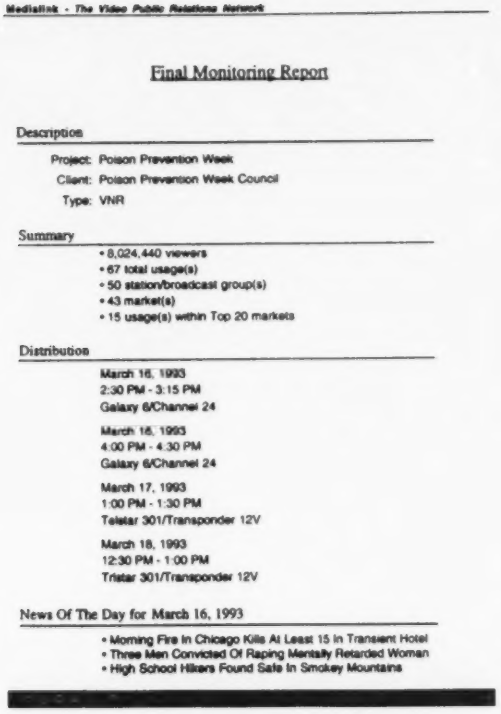
The Poison Prevention Week Council produced a video news release from the March 16 news conference. The video was broadcast by satellite for local TV news programs to use. Evaluation of the TV station use of the video news release showed that more than eight million TV viewers saw the video. Another two million TV viewers saw other poison prevention stories, bringing the total TV viewership to more than 10 million. The costs of the video news release were paid by voluntary financial contributions from Council members and corporations.



Medialink - *The Video Public Relations Network*

Final Monitoring Report

Description

Project: Poison Prevention Week
Client: Poison Prevention Week Council
Type: VNR

Summary

- 8,024,440 viewers
- 67 total usage(s)
- 50 station/broadcast group(s)
- 43 market(s)
- 15 usage(s) within Top 20 markets

Distribution

March 16, 1993
2:30 PM - 3:15 PM
Galaxy 6/Channel 24

March 16, 1993
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Galaxy 6/Channel 24

March 17, 1993
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Telstar 301/Transponder 12V

March 18, 1993
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM
Tristar 301/Transponder 12V

News Of The Day for March 16, 1993

- Morning Fire In Chicago Kills At Least 15 In Transient Hotel
- Three Men Convicted Of Raping Mentally Retarded Woman
- High School Hikers Found Safe In Smokey Mountains

MEDIALINK - Your Video News Source

SUBJECT: NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK HELPS SAVE CHILDREN'S LIVES
...safety tips to avoid poisonings from medicines and household chemicals...National Poison Prevention is March 21-27, 1993

ATTN: NEWS PRODUCERS/ASSIGNMENT EDITORS/SATELLITE NEWS COORDINATORS

KEYWORDS: TOXIC HEALTH SAFETY EDUCATION CONSUMER

The following is a video news release satellite advisory:

STORY SUMMARY:

Poison prevention tips stressing the use of child-resistant packaging and keeping medicines and household chemicals out of kids' reach were emphasized at a March 16 news conference in Washington, D.C. Participants included experts from the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Poison Prevention Week Council and the EPA Office of Pesticides.

In a recent year, accidental poisoning killed 55 children. That's a significant drop since the early 1960's -- when there was an average of 450 deaths a year. Almost one million parents whose children swallowed something harmful called a poison control center last year. At the news conference, the parents of a 2-year-old boy told how their son accidentally swallowed a large dose of aspirin -- and recovered thanks to the Poison Control Center.

This VNR looks at the importance of poison prevention. Same-day coverage of the March 16 news conference features SOT's from poison prevention authorities and the parents of an accidental poisoning victim. B-roll includes shots of a poison center and a display of child-resistant packaging.

RE-FEED DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1993
RE-FEED TIME: 11:00 - 11:30 PM EST
COORDINATES: C-BAND: TELSTAR 301/TRANSPONDER 12-V/AUDIO 6.2 & 6.8

RE-FEED DATE: THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1993 (package only)
RE-FEED TIME: 12:30 - 1:00 PM EST
COORDINATES: C-BAND: TELSTAR 301/TRANSPONDER 12-V/AUDIO 6.2 & 6.8

FORMAT: Package TRT TBA
SOTs
B-roll

Produced for POISON PREVENTION WEEK COUNCIL

FOR STORY INFORMATION, CONTACT: Ken Giles, (301) 504-0580

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION, CONTACT: Medialink, (212) 682-8300 or outside NY State, (800) 843-8677

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The Journal Newspaper (Montgomery County, Maryland, March 23, 1993) printed an informative article about poison prevention, highlighting the experience of 2-year-old Jason Cheslock who appeared at the Council's news conference.

Hazards in your household

By ELLEN CROSBY

The day my son drank poison began like every other day.

He got up earlier than usual, though, as I had to postpone my shower until after breakfast. I took some of his toys into the bedroom, locked us both in so he couldn't wander around the house, and quickly slipped into the shower. When I opened the shower curtain a few minutes later, I realized with sickening clarity that the smell of rubbing alcohol permeated the bathroom.

His breath and his clothes reeked of alcohol. There was still some in the bottle, but it had been left on the cabinet by the previous occupant and I had no idea how old it was nor a clear recollection how full the bottle had been.

I stripped off his clothes, scooped him up, and ran for the telephone. When my call moved in a few minutes ago, my mother had seen the cruel 30 Yuk stickers from the National Capital Poison Center. I remembered myself a forty-eight mother and had never bothered to call the Poison Center when my other children were at that inquisitive stage, but fortunately I had posted one of the bright green stickers with the center's emergency telephone number in my phone book.

The voice on the other end of the telephone was calm, collected, and not the least bit reproachful that I had left unsupervised alcohol where a 2-year-old could get into it. She told me to get the bottle and read her the label. How much had he drunk, she asked. I didn't know. Could I guess? I wasn't sure. Together we worried out how much he might have drunk. How much did he weigh? By this time, I was so distracted I hardly remembered his name, but she quickly calculated that the quantity was sufficient to be dangerous. We needed to get the alcohol out of his system.

Did I have ipecac syrup in the house to induce vomiting? I didn't even know what it was. I needed to get some, she said in a calm voice. Quickly. I glanced at the clock. It was early and I was still new enough to the area that I didn't know where pharmacies opened. How much time did I have? Bring him with you, she advised. And give him the syrup right there in the drug store. Heartsick, I realized that, despite her soothing tone, this really was an emergency.

Though I was unprepared, fortunately a neighbor had a bottle of the previous stuff. It worked swiftly and by afternoon, I had an exhausted child who took a record-breaking nap. I was lucky. The Poison Center called several times that day and even called the following morning to make sure everything was all right.

My call was one of the more than 68,000 calls the National Capital Poison Center responded to last year, free of charge. More than 22,000 of those calls were about actual poisonings, the others were requests for information. Most of the poisonings were accidents occurring in homes. Most occurred in children under the age of 6 who had ingested or been otherwise exposed to cosmetics, cleaning agents, plants, cough and cold medicines, vitamins, and other dangerous but common household substances. In recent years, the single most frequent cause of poisoning in children is from iron-containing medicines, including vitamins.

The National Capital Poison Center, one of 27 regional poison control centers nationwide, was established in October 1960. Its director, Dr. Toby Litovitz, has been on call ever since. The center, located in a tiny warren of offices behind the Emergency Room of Georgetown University Hospital, is staffed by registered nurses who answer the telephone 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Each member of the staff is a specialist in poison information, and each has years of experience. They also have extensive computerized information bank that gives them instant access to information about thousands of products, helping them determine how to treat poisonings, no matter how exotic the substance.

The Poison Center has direct lines to all 911 services around the Beltway and, if necessary, will dispatch an ambulance to the victim's home. Then they call ahead to the hospital's emergency room, apprising medical staff of what to expect. Fortunately, however, the Poison Control Center can treat 75 percent of all calls at home, according to Rose Ann Soloway, the center's education and community liaison coordinator.

People think the Poison Center is some big place where kids get wheeled in when they're poisoned, to music and commotion, with a phone here and files there, Soloway says. She has promised me a look at the files, too. We step out of her situation of an office into a narrow corridor-like room. Here we are, she says.

Most of one side of the room are white four-drawer file cabinets. Among the other side, two nurses sit surrounded by telephones, papers and computers at a long narrow table. Soloway leads out a hidden shelf that separates the upper and lower halves of the cabinets so we can look at the center's telephone log. It is an anonymous record of all the calls they receive. She pushes a half-wrapped hamburger sandwich out of the way. We don't get out much for lunch, she apologizes. The phones keep us pretty busy.

We are standing at the file cabinet containing some of the C's and my attention is diverted to the labels and their unnerving list of contents. Chemical spills ... chlorine/chlorocarbides ... chromium ... colors and smells ... coppers ... cosmetics ... cyanide ... the list goes on. Soloway tells me the staff receives 100 journals a month to keep up with the latest information. Follow-up calls, after a poisoning has occurred, are another important source of new information.

A quick review of the log shows there were 150 calls to the center in a 24-hour period, which is about average. One-hundred of those calls involved actual poisonings. A 2-year-old ate approximately tablets. A 14-month-old got into a can of bathroom cleaner. A man who was defrosting his freezer accidentally let the cool mist was diverted about to spray Prozac. A 15-month-old drank window cleaner. Someone called to ask about mixing bleach and ammonia (a toxic combination); several other people called about thermometers.

You need to check the child's mouth for broken glass if the thermometer is broken, Soloway says.

But the mercury in a thermometer is inert. Nothing will happen from the little bit that is swallowed. And if you must use bleach and ammonia right after each other, be careful to wipe off the surface first. It's a very dangerous combination.

The Poison Center is staffed during holidays as well. Robin Cheslock of Gaithersburg knows that all too well. On Thanksgiving Day, her family was gathered at her parents' home when her husband noticed that 2½-year-old Jason had disappeared.

"We found him holding my uncle's bottle of aspirin. There was powder around his mouth and on his hands," Cheslock recalls. They called the Poison Center immediately and the nurse who spoke with them asked them to count how many pills were left in the bottle. They accounted for all but 10 pills.

Ipecac syrup was the antidote to Jason's case, as well. Fortunately Robin Cheslock had a bottle in her diaper bag. "Any more than 10 pills, she says, and we would have had to go to the Emergency Room."

Each call to the Poison Center costs about $25 and Soloway says the center's annual budget is between $850,000 and $900,000. About $350,000 comes from donations. Georgetown University Hospital funds the balance.

But things are tight for the hospital this year and it's going to be tough, Soloway says. Nevertheless, we're a money-saving organization. If it weren't for us, so many of those poisonings would end up in hospital emergency rooms. Because we're here, most cases can be treated at home.

The center requests donations in a low-key campaign, asking people who benefit to help feed a hungry dragonfly known as "Poisonous." The dragonfly is named after the national "Mr. Yuk" character whose fluorescent green face appears on stickers meant to be affixed to bottles, cans and packages containing toxic ingredients.

Litovitz steps by to see if Soloway is available for a meeting. Soloway checks a large calendar on her office wall that appears to have something scribbled on every day.

"I spend a lot of time on the road," she says, "talking at health fairs, or to police recruits, paramedics, day-care staffs, people like that.

Back in her office, she holds up a bottle of a bright blue melt drank in one hand and a bottle of similarly colored windshield cleaning fluid in the other.

"Pretend you're 2 years old and tell me the difference," she says. She holds up a bottle of clear dishwashing liquid. "Looks just like water, doesn't it?"

Poisons act so quickly," she adds. "When a poisoning occurs, you've got to be prepared to act quickly as well. People need to call us immediately. After all, that's why we're here.

Center antidote for fears

POISON from B1

How to prevent a yukky day

Call 911 right away if someone who has ingested poison is having trouble breathing, is having seizures, or won't wake up. Call (202) 625-3333 if a poison is swallowed, breathed in, or splashed in the eyes or on the skin.

Here are some ways to keep your child from being poisoned:

☐ Most accidental poisonings occur in children under 5. Beware. Children who are poisoned once are frequently poisoned again.

☐ Stay alert. Children can't recognize poisons. Medicine may look like candy.

☐ Lock poisons up, out of sight and out of reach. Be especially careful about handbags and suitcases.

☐ Use child-resistant caps on medicines, cleaning products and antifreeze. But remember: These caps are not childproof. Many youngsters are able to open them.

☐ Don't take medicine in front of children. They will imitate you.

Robin Cheslock of Gaithersburg with son Jason, 2½, who swallowed 10 aspirin tablets on Thanksgiving.

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Because of concern that some Hispanic consumers may not be aware of the toxicity of iron pills and other poisonous substances, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a safety alert about "Iron-Containing Medicine" and a news release about "Child-Resistant Packaging" in Spanish and English. Both documents were distributed to Hispanic organizations and the general media.

AVISO AL CONSUMIDOR SOBRE LA SEGURIDAD DE PRODUCTOS
Comision Para Seguridad de Productos de EE.UU.

PREVENGA ENVENENARSE O LA MUERTE EVITANDO MEDICAMENTOS A BASE DE HIERRO

La Comisión para Seguridad de Productos del Consumidor (CPSC) avisa que los medicamentos a base de hierro (a veces identificados como sulfato ferroso, gluconate ferroso, ó fumarate ferroso) pueden ser fatales para los niños. Muchos adultos no se dan cuenta del peligro en los preparativos con hierro. La Comision recomienda que los padres mantengan las medicinas con hierro fuera del alcance de los niños.

El hierro puede encontrarse en combinacion con vitaminas o solo. De acuerdo con los datos del Centro para Control de Veneno, los medicamentos a base de hierro usados como suplementos, son los causantes del 30% de las muertes por envenenamiento de los niños. Solo con ingerir una pequeña cantidad de pildoras con hierro pueden causar la muerte a un niño. Cuando los niños ingieren las pildoras de hierro de sus padres pueden envenenarse. La Comisión recomienda que los obsétricos y genecólogos adviertan a sus pacientes que las medicinas a base de hierro son peligrosas para los niños.

La Comisión para Seguridad de Productos del Consumidor (CPSC) requiere que los medicamentos a base de hierro, asi como las vitaminas con hierro, sean envesadas con tapas a prueba de niños. También los padres deben asegurarse que las tapas están seguras, asi como mantener las medicinas con hierro fuera del alcance de los niños y desechar adecuadamente de aquellas que no necesiten para asi evitar que los niños las alcancen. Estas medicinas deben desecharse por el inodoro y no en zafacones donde los niños pueden encontrarlas.

Use siempre tapas a prueba de niños y mantenga las medicinas conteniendo hierro fuera del alcance de los mismos.

Consumer Product SAFETY ALERT

Prevent Poisoning and Death from Iron-Containing Medicine

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) warns that iron medications (sometimes identified as ferrous sulfate, ferrous gluconate or ferrous fumarate) can be deadly to a young child. Many adults may not realize the hazard of iron preparations. The Commission recommends that parents keep medicine with iron out of the reach of young children.

Iron is available in combination with vitamins or alone. According to poison control center data, iron supplements are responsible for 30 percent of pediatric poisoning deaths from medications. A small number of iron pills consumed by a child can cause death. Poisonings happen when children swallow their parents iron pills. CPSC recommends that obstetricians and gynecologists tell their maternity patients that prenatal medicine with iron is poisonous to children.

CPSC requires that iron-containing medicines and vitamins with iron be packaged in child-resistant closures. Parents should always properly re-secure safety closures. In addition, parents should keep medicines with iron out of the reach of children and should properly discard iron pills after use so children cannot reach them. Medicines should be discarded by flushing down the toilet, not in a wastebasket where children can find them.

Always use child-resistant closures and keep iron-containing medicine out of the reach of children.

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NEWS from CPSC
U. S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

PARA PUBLICACION: Martes, 16 de Marzo, 1993
Emision #93-47

Semana Nacional para la Prevención del Envenenamiento:

ENVASES CON TAPAS A PRUEBA DE NIÑOS SALVAN VIDAS.

Washington, D.C. - Envases con tapas a prueba de niños para aspirinas y otras medicinas prescritas, pueden haber salvado las vidas de unos 700 niños desde que esos requisitos entraron en vigor a principios de los años 1970. Esto de acuerdo con la Presidenta de la Comisión para la Seguridad de Productos del Consumidor de E.U., Jacqueline Jones-Smith. Sin embargo, éste exito no ha eliminado totalmente el problema del envenenamiento en America, tal como se ha divulgado en la Conferencia de hoy de la Semana Nacional para la Prevencion del Envenenamiento. En 1989, 55 niños de menos de 5 años murieron envenenados accidentalmente con medicinas o productos quimicos en el hogar. Cerca de un millón de consumidores llamaron a los centros de control de veneno acerca de envenenamiento actual o "casi real" en los niños.

La Semana Nacional para la Prevención del Envenenamiento sera observada en Marzo 21-27, 1993. Oradores de la conferencia de hoy emfatizaron la importancia de mantener las medicinas (especialmente aquellas que contienen hierro), asi como aquellas substancias quimicas del hogar, fuera del alcance de los niños. La Presidenta del CPSC, J. Jones-Smith, y el portavoz del la Agencia para Proteccion Ambiental, Stephen Johnson, mostraron ejemplos de medicinas, substancias quimicas del hogar, y pesticidas que deben envasarse con tapas a prueba de niños. (fotos accesibles).

Otro participante a la Conferencia de Prensa sobre la Semana Nacional para la Prevencion del Envenenamiento fue el niño de dos años, Jason Cheslock de Gaithersburg, Maryland. El año pasado, el niño Jason se enveneno cuando

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Bethesda, MD 20207

Call
(301) 504-0580

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Public Affairs

ingirio una aspirina de su tio. Gracias a la pronta intervencion del Centro de Envenenamiento de la Capital Nacional, Jason se recupero completamente. Este caso es uno de casi un millon de niños envenenados el año pasado.

Rose Ann Soloway, Presidenta del Consejo para la Semana de la Prevencion del Envenenamiento, hizo notar que la coalición de 37 organizaciones trabaja para prevenir envenenamientos accidentales, distribuyendo informacion, asi como urgiendo a los centros locales de envenenamiento, farmacias, departamentos de salud publica, y otros a que conduzcan programas de prevencion de envenenamiento en sus comunidades. Ella les aconsejo: "Si ocurre un envenenamiento, llame al centro de control de venenos inmediatamente."

El CPSC participa en las actividades del Consejo para la Semana de la Prevencion de Envenenamiento como parte de su mision para proteger al publico del riesgo a lesionarse o a morir a causa de productos consumidos. El objetivo de la Comision es el de reducir un estimado de 28.5 lesiones y 21,600 muertes asociadas anualmente con 15,000 diferentes tipos de productos consumidos bajo la jurisdiccion del CPSC. Los consumidores pueden solicitar la lista de esos productos enviando una tarjeta postal a: Poison Prevention Checklist, Washington, D.C. 20207.

NOTA A LOS REPORTEROS DE TV/EDITORES DE ASIGNACION: Un video de noticias para la publicacion, con un segmento editado, y un B-roll de la conferencia de noticias, sera transmitido a las 2:30 pm (Hora del Este) el Martes, 16 de Marzo, en satelite coordinado Galaxy 6, Canal 24, audio 6.2 y 6.8. El segmento editado sera re-transmitido a las 12:30 pm el Jueves, Marzo 18, en el Telstar 301/Transponder 12V. Para videocasettes del VNR, favor de llamar a Ken Giles al 301-504-0580.

La Proclamacion Presidencial y los comentarios de los oradores estaran incluidos en el kit para la prensa de la Semana Nacional para la Prevencion del Envenenamiento. Una foto de medicinas y productos quimicos potencialmente venenosos en el hogar pueden obtenerse llamando a Ken Giles, 301-504-0580.

NEWS from CPSC
U. S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1993
RELEASE #93-47

National Poison Prevention Week:

CHILD-RESISTANT PACKAGING SAVES LIVES

WASHINGTON, DC -- Child-resistant packaging for aspirin and oral prescription medicine may have saved the lives of about 700 children since the requirements went into effect in the early 1970s, according to U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Chairman Jacqueline Jones-Smith. However, this success story has not eliminated the poisoning problem in America, as noted in the annual National Poison Prevention Week news conference today. In 1989, 55 children under age five died from accidental poisoning with medicines or household chemicals. Nearly a million consumers called poison control centers about actual or "near-miss" child poisonings.

National Poison Prevention Week will be observed on March 21-27, 1993. Speakers at today's news conference emphasized the importance of keeping medicines (especially iron-containing medicines) and household chemicals out of the reach of young children. CPSC Chairman Jones-Smith and Environmental Protection Agency spokesperson Stephen Johnson displayed examples of medicines, household chemicals, and pesticides that must be in child-resistant packaging (see photo attached).

---MORE---

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Another participant at the National Poison Prevention Week news conference was two-year-old Jason Cheslock from Gaithersburg, Maryland. Last year, young Jason was poisoned when he swallowed his uncle's aspirin. Through quick action advised by the National Capital Poison Center, Jason recovered completely. His case was one of nearly a million poisonings of young children last year.

Rose Ann Soloway, Chairman of the Poison Prevention Week Council, noted that the coalition of 37 national organizations works to stop accidental poisonings by distributing information and by encouraging local poison control centers, pharmacies, public health departments, and others to conduct poison prevention programs in their communities. She advised, "If a poisoning occurs, call a poison control center immediately."

CPSC participates in the Poison Prevention Week Council activities as part of its mission to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury and death associated with consumer products. The Commission's objective is to reduce the estimated 28.5 million injuries and 21,600 deaths associated each year with the 15,000 different types of consumer products under CPSC's jurisdiction. For a checklist on poison prevention, consumers may send a postcard to Poison Prevention Checklist, Washington, DC 20207.

---MORE---

(poison prevention) -3-

NOTE: To report an unsafe consumer product or a product-related injury, consumers may call the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's toll-free hotline at 1-800-638-2772. A teletypewriter for the hearing impaired is available at 1-800-638-8270; the Maryland TTY number is 1-800-492-8104.

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NOTE TO TV REPORTERS/ASSIGNMENT EDITORS: Video on Jason Cheslock, who survived a poisoning, is available. Call Ken Giles or Al Maruggi at 301-504-0580 for details.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: The following individuals will be available for photos and interviews at the news conference:

Jacqueline Jones-Smith, Chairman, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Rose Ann Soloway, Chairman, Poison Prevention Week Council

Stephen Johnson, Director of Field Operations Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

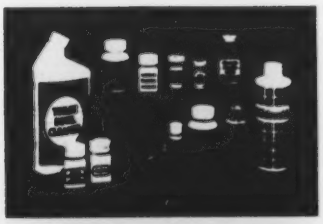
Two-year-old Jason Cheslock, who was poisoned but fully recovered after emergency assistance by the National Capital Poison Center. Jason's parents, Joe and Robin Cheslock, will be at the news conference to tell his story.

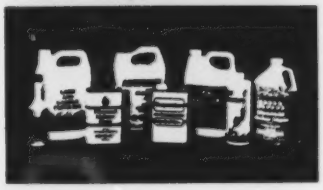
The Presidential Proclamation and remarks by these speakers are available in the press kit for National Poison Prevention Week.

A collection of potentially poisonous household chemicals and medicines will be on display at the news conference (photo attached).

---MORE---

Products Required To Be In Child-Resistant Packaging





BATHROOM

- Antihistamine/Sleep Aid containing diphenhydramine
- Aspirin
- Aspirin Substitute containing acetaminophen
- Cough Syrup with Codeine (controlled drug)
- Glue and Artificial Fingernail Remover containing acetonitrile
- Ibuprofen
- Iron-containing Medicine
- Iron-containing Vitamins
- Mildewcide
- Oil of Wintergreen (methyl salicylate)
- Oral Prescription Medicine
- Permanent Hair Wave Neutralizer containing sodium or potassium bromate
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner

KITCHEN

- Ant and Roach Bait
- Drain Cleaner containing sodium or potassium hydroxide
- Drain Cleaner containing sulfuric acid
- Furniture Polish containing petroleum distillates
- Oven Cleaner containing sodium or potassium hydroxide

GARAGE OR STORAGE AREA

- Antifreeze containing ethylene glycol
- Charcoal Lighter Fluid containing petroleum distillates
- Gas Line Antifreeze containing methyl alcohol
- Lawn and Garden Pesticide
- Paint Thinner containing petroleum distillates
- Pool Chemical
- Turpentine
- Windshield Washer Liquid containing methyl alcohol

###

Consumer Product SAFETY ALERT

FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

Child-Resistant Packaging Saves Lives

The staff of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that child-resistant packaging for aspirin and oral prescription medicine saved the lives of about 700 children since the requirements went into effect in the early 1970's.

CPSC analyzed child fatality data for accidental ingestions of aspirin and oral prescription medicines. The death rates for aspirin and oral prescription medicines declined even after taking account of the overall decline in the accidental child death rate from all causes. The study also accounted for changes in per capita product consumption and reductions in the aspirin fatality rate associated with therapeutic overdose.

The CPSC study showed that child-resistant packaging reduced the aspirin-related child death rate by up to 0.68 deaths per million children under age five. The results also showed that special packaging reduced the oral prescription medicine-related death rate by up to 1.27 deaths per million children under age five. This represents a fatality rate reduction of up to 45 percent from levels that would have been projected in the absence of child-resistant packaging requirements.

The lower fatality rate represents a total reduction of about 700 child deaths since the requirements for child-resistant packaging on these products went into effect in the early 1970's.

The estimate of about 700 lives saved relates to aspirin and oral prescription medicines only and does not include additional lives that may have been saved by child-resistant packaging on other products. Therefore, the CPSC's staff concludes that child-resistant packaging saves lives. Consumers should use child-resistant packaging to help prevent accidental poisonings with medicines and household chemicals.

Use child-resistant packaging to help prevent accidental poisonings with medicines and household chemicals.

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The American Association of Poison Control Centers published an updated list of Certified Regional Poison Centers in the U.S. There are 38 Regional Centers throughout the country.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF POISON CONTROL CENTERS
Certified Regional Poison Centers, February 1993

ALABAMA:
Regional Poison Control Center
The Children's Hospital of Alabama
1600 - 7th Ave. South
Birmingham AL 35233-1711
Emergency Numbers: (205) 939-9201, (800) 292-6678 (AL only) or (205) 933-4050

ARIZONA:
Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center
Arizona Health Sciences Center; Rm. #3204-K
1501 N. Campbell Ave.
Tucson AZ 85724
Emergency Numbers: (800) 362-0101 (AZ only), (602) 626-6016
Samaritan Regional Poison Center
Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center
1130 E. McDowell, Suite A-5
Phoenix AZ 85006
Emergency Number: (602) 253-3334

CALIFORNIA:
Fresno Regional Poison Control Center
of Fresno Community Hospital and Medical Center
2823 Fresno Street
Fresno CA 93721
Emergency Numbers: (800) 346-5822 or (209) 445-1222
San Diego Regional Poison Center
UCSD Medical Center; 9925
225 Dickinson St.
San Diego CA 92103-8925
Emergency Numbers: (619) 543-6000, (800) 876-4766 (in 619 area code only)
San Francisco Bay Area Regional Poison Control Center
San Francisco General Hospital
1001 Potrero Ave., Building 80, Room 230
San Francisco CA 94122
Emergency Number: (415) 476-6600
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Regional Poison Center
751 South Bascom Ave.
San Jose CA 95128
Emergency Numbers: (408) 299-5112, (800) 662-9886 (CA only)
University of California, Davis, Medical Center Regional Poison Control Center
2315 Stockton Blvd.
Sacramento CA 95817
Emergency Numbers: (916) 734-3692, (800) 342-9293 (Northern California only)
UCI Regional Poison Center
UCI Medical Center
101 The City Drive; Rt. 78
Orange CA 92668-3298
Emergency Numbers: (714) 634-5988, (800) 544-4404 (Southern California Only)

COLORADO:
Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center
645 Bannock Street
Denver CO 80204
Emergency Number: (303) 629-1123

D.C.:
National Capital Poison Center
3800 Reservoir Road N.W.
Washington DC 20007
Emergency Number: (202) 625-3333

FLORIDA:
The Florida Poison Information Center at Tampa General Hospital
Post Office Box 1289
Tampa FL 33601
Emergency Numbers: (813) 253-4444 (Tampa) (800) 282-3171 (Florida)

GEORGIA:
Georgia Poison Center
Grady Memorial Hospital
80 Butler Street S.E.
P.O. Box 26066
Atlanta GA 30335-3801
Emergency Numbers: (800) 282-5846 GA only, (404) 589-4400

INDIANA:
Indiana Poison Center
Methodist Hospital of Indiana
1701 N. Senate Boulevard
P.O. Box 1367
Indianapolis IN 46206-1367
Emergency Numbers: (800) 382-9097 (IN only), (317) 929-2323

MARYLAND:
Maryland Poison Center
20 N. Pine St.
Baltimore MD 21201
Emergency Numbers: (410) 528-7701, (800) 492-2414(MD only)
National Capital Poison Center
3800 Reservoir Road N.W.
Washington DC 20007
Emergency Number: (202) 625-3333

MASS.:
Massachusetts Poison Control System
300 Longwood Ave.
Boston MA 02115
Emergency Numbers: (617) 232-2120, (800) 682-9211

MICHIGAN:
Blodgett Regional Poison Center
1840 Wealthy S.E.
Grand Rapids MI 49506-2968
Emergency Numbers: (800) 632-2727 (Michigan only), TTY (800) 356-3232
Poison Control Center, Children's Hospital of Michigan
3901 Beaubien Blvd.
Detroit MI 48201
Emergency Number: (313) 745-5711

MINNESOTA:
Hennepin Regional Poison Center
Hennepin County Medical Center
701 Park Ave.
Minneapolis MN 55415
Emergency Numbers: (612) 347-3141, Patina: (612) 337-7387, TDD (612) 337-7474
Minnesota Regional Poison Center
St. Paul-Ramsay Medical Center
640 Jackson St.
St. Paul MN 55101
Emergency Number: (612) 221-2113

MISSOURI:
Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital Regional Poison Center
1465 S. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis MO 63104
Emergency Numbers: (314) 772-5200, (800) 366-8888

MONTANA:
Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center
645 Bannock Street
Denver CO 80204
Emergency Number: (303) 629-1123

NEBRASKA:
The Poison Center
8301 Dodge St.
Omaha NE 68114
Emergency Numbers: (402) 390-5555 (Omaha), (800) 955-9119 (NE)

NEW JERSEY:
New Jersey Poison Information and Education System
201 Lyons Ave.
Newark NJ 07112
Emergency Number: (800) 962-1253

NEW MEXICO:
New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque NM 87131-1078
Emergency Numbers: (505) 843-2551, (800) 432-6866 (NM only)

NEW YORK:
Long Island Regional Poison Control Center
Winthrop University Hospital
259 First Street
Mineola NY 11501
Emergency Numbers: (516) 542-2323, 2324, 2325, 3813
New York City Poison Control Center
N.Y.C. Department of Health
455 First Ave., Room 123
New York NY 10016
Emergency Numbers: (212) 340-4494, (212) P-O-I-S-O-N-S, TDD (212) 689-9014

OHIO:
Central Ohio Poison Center
700 Children's Drive
Columbus OH 43205-2696
Emergency Numbers: (614) 228-1323, (800) 682-7625, (614) 228-2272 (TTY), (614) 461-2012
Cincinnati Drug & Poison Information Center and Regional Poison Control System
231 Bethesda Avenue, M.L. 144
Cincinnati OH 45267-0144
Emergency Numbers: (513) 558-5111, 800-872-5111 (OH only)

OREGON:
Oregon Poison Center
Oregon Health Sciences University
3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road
Portland OR 97201
Emergency Numbers: (503) 494-8968, (800) 452-7165 (OR only)

PENNSYLVANIA:
Central Pennsylvania Poison Center
University Hospital
Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Hershey PA 17033
Emergency Number: (800) 521-6110
The Poison Control Center serving the greater Philadelphia metropolitan area
One Children's Center
Philadelphia PA 19104-4303
Emergency Number: (215) 386-2100
Pittsburgh Poison Center
3705 Fifth Ave. @ DeSoto St.
Pittsburgh PA 15213
Emergency Number: (412) 681-6669

RHODE ISLAND:
Rhode Island Poison Center
593 Eddy St.
Providence RI 02903
Emergency Number: (401) 277-5727

TEXAS:
North Texas Poison Center
5201 Harry Hines Blvd.
P.O. Box 35926
Dallas TX 75235
Emergency Numbers: (214) 590-5000, Texas Wats (800) 441-0040

UTAH:
Intermountain Regional Poison Control Center
50 North Medical Drive
Salt Lake City UT 84132
Emergency Numbers: (801) 581-2151, (800) 456-7707 (UT only)

VIRGINIA:
Blue Ridge Poison Center
Box 67
Blue Ridge Hospital
Charlottesville VA 22901
Emergency Numbers: (804) 924-5543, (800) 451-1428
National Capital Poison Center
3800 Reservoir Road N.W.
Washington DC 20007
Emergency Number: (202) 625-3333

WEST VIRGINIA:
West Virginia Poison Center
3110 MacCorkle Ave. S.E.
Charleston WV 25304
Emergency Numbers: (800) 642-3625 (WV only), (304) 348-4211

WYOMING:
The Poison Center
8301 Dodge St.
Omaha NE 68114
Emergency Numbers: (402) 390-5555 (Omaha), (800) 955-9119 (NE)

The American Society of Hospital Pharmacists promoted poison prevention through their newsletter, journal, and a mailing to all 27,500 ASHP members.

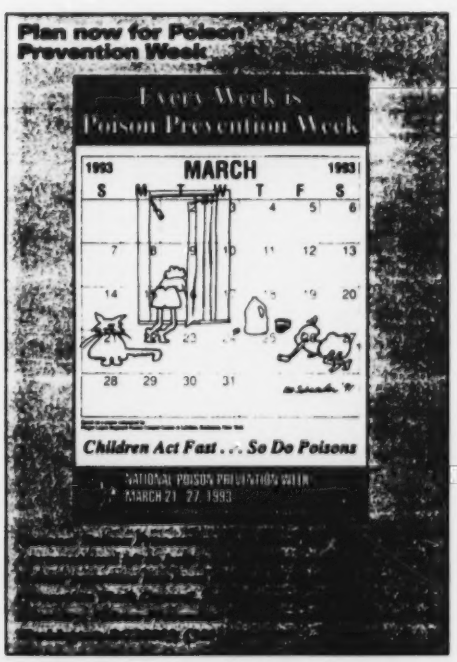
The American Pharmaceutical Association encouraged their members to obtain a poison prevention kit from the Council. A reproduction of the 1993 poster was included in their "Pharmacy Today" newsletter, along with a copy of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's "Poison Lookout Checklist."

PHARMACY TODAY

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

Poison Prevention handout inside

Participate in National Poison Prevention Week, March 21-27, 1993. Copy the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Poison Lookout Checklist on page 8 and distribute it to your patients.


Plan now for Poison Prevention Week
Every Week is Poison Prevention Week
1993 MARCH 1993
S M T W T F S
Children Act Fast . . . So Do Poisons
NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK
MARCH 21-27, 1993

Need Ideas for Poison Prevention Week?

For Poison Prevention Week last year, pharmacy staff at

- Garrett County Memorial Hospital, Oakland, MD, did newspaper and radio interviews.
- University of Tennessee Memorial Hospital, Knoxville, created a videotape identifying danger spots in the home.
- Beckley Hospital, Beckley, WV, made presentations at local elementary schools, distributed publications, and provided free ipecac syrup.

Want to get started for this year's observance (March 21–27)?

Contact your affiliated state chapter officers, who have received a publicity kit. Or obtain the "List of Materials" from the Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013 (301-504-0580).

Every Week is Poison Prevention Week
1993 MARCH 1993
S M T W T F S
Children Act Fast . . . So Do Poisons
NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK
MARCH 21-27, 1993

Watch for the 1993 Poison Prevention Week poster in an ASHP membership mailing.

CTFA Participates in National Poison Prevention Week

The week of March 21-27 marked National Poison Prevention Week, sponsored by the Poison Prevention Week Council, a coalition of 37 national organizations, of which CTFA is a member. That week, the council worked together to shed light on a serious subject: accidental child poisonings.

Robin Cheslock and two-year old Jason, who swallowed his uncle's aspiren but fully recovered after his mother followed advice given by the National Capital Poison Center.

At the March 16 news conference, Rose Ann Soloway, chairperson of the Poison Prevention Week Council, advised that "If a poisoning occurs, call a poison control center immediately." It was noted that in 1992, the American Association of Poison Control Centers recorded more than one million calls about children under the age of six who were exposed to poisons.

Adding living testimony to the fact that calling a poison control center works, two-year-old Jason Cheslock appeared at the conference, fully recovered from his accidental poisoning a year ago. The National Poison Prevention Week is highly regarded as an effective safety effort in getting the message out, and CTFA is proud to support this outstanding program. ■

The Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association covered the Council's news conference in their March 29 newsletter "CTFA News."

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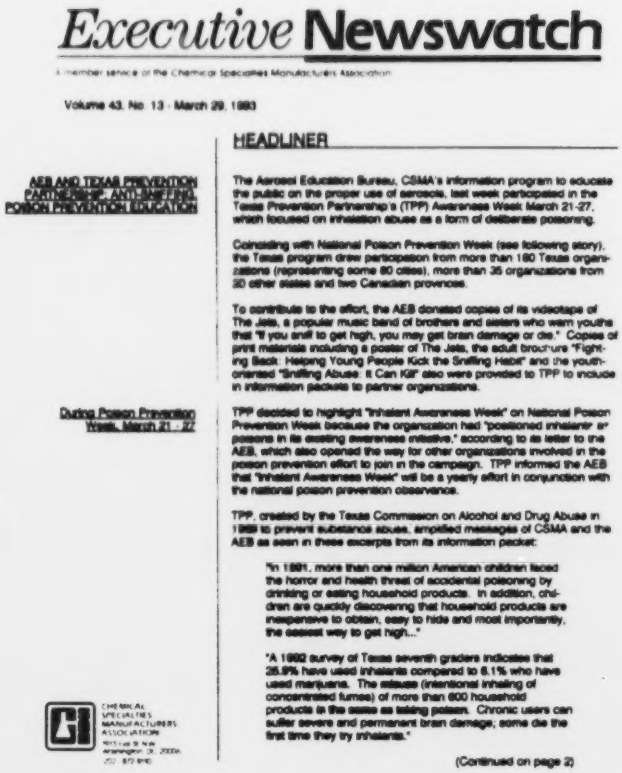
The American Association of Poison Control Centers distributed planning kits to all member poison centers and participated in the poster design contest. The winning poster (see front cover) was submitted by Finger Lakes Regional Poison Control Center in Rochester, New York. AAPCC also provided data for use in the presidential proclamation and helped individual poison centers prepare local proclamations.

The Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association promoted poison prevention through their "Executive Newswatch" newsletter (sent to CSMA members) and their "Chemical Times & Trends" journal. "Chemical Times & Trends" reaches industry, legislators, regulators, educators, libraries, and the trade press. CSMA also produced a new "Consumer Products Handbook" featuring a section on preventing poisonings, the history of poison prevention, and the evolution and role of poison control centers.



Executive Newswatch

A member service of the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association

Volume 43, No. 13 · March 29, 1983

HEADLINER

AEB AND TEXAS PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP JOIN IN FIGHT FOR POISON PREVENTION EDUCATION

The Aerosol Education Bureau, CSMA's information program to educate the public on the proper use of aerosols, last week participated in the Texas Prevention Partnership's (TPP) Awareness Week March 21-27, which focused on inhalation abuse as a form of deliberate poisoning.

Coinciding with National Poison Prevention Week (see following story), the Texas program drew participation from more than 180 Texas organizations (representing some 80 cities), more than 35 organizations from 20 other states and two Canadian provinces.

To contribute to the effort, the AEB donated copies of its videotape of The Jets, a popular music band of brothers and sisters who warn youths that "if you sniff to get high, you may get brain damage or die." Copies of print materials including a poster of The Jets, the adult brochure "Fighting Back: Helping Young People Kick the Sniffing Habit" and the youth-oriented "Sniffing Abuse: It Can Kill" also were provided to TPP to include in information packets to partner organizations.

During Poison Prevention Week, March 21 - 27

TPP decided to highlight "Inhalant Awareness Week" on National Poison Prevention Week because the organization had "positioned inhalants as poisons in its existing awareness initiative," according to its letter to the AEB, which also opened the way for other organizations involved in the poison prevention effort to join in the campaign. TPP informed the AEB that "Inhalant Awareness Week" will be a yearly effort in conjunction with the national poison prevention observance.

TPP, created by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse in 1980 to prevent substance abuse, amplified messages of CSMA and the AEB as seen in these excerpts from its information packet:

> "In 1981, more than one million American children faced the horror and health threat of accidental poisoning by drinking or eating household products. In addition, children are quickly discovering that household products are inexpensive to obtain, easy to hide and most importantly, the easiest way to get high..."
>
> "A 1982 survey of Texas seventh graders indicates that 26.9% have used inhalants compared to 6.1% who have used marijuana. The misuse (intentional inhaling of concentrated fumes) of more than 600 household products is the same as taking poison. Chronic users can suffer severe and permanent brain damage, some die the first time they try inhalants."

(Continued on page 2)

CHEMICAL SPECIALTIES MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

CHEMICAL TIMES & TRENDS

Industry's Contribution in Building National Database and Public Education Vital To

Poison Prevention

This begins a series of excerpts from The Consumer Products Handbook, recently developed by CSMA's Scientific Affairs Committee. The publication explains the basic science behind consumer products and how today's consumer products are developed, tested, labeled and regulated for efficacy, safety and environmental compatibility.

Future issues of Chemical Times & Trends will feature chapters that focus on the chemistry around us, the history of consumer products, governmental regulation, testing for efficacy and stability, safety testing, environmental safety assessment, packaging, homemade products and categories of consumer products.

Copies of The Consumer Products Handbook *are available at $5 each, with quantity discounts available. Contact CSMA Publications at (202) 872-8110.*

Poison prevention is an important issue to the consumer products industry. Years of participation in the Poison Prevention Week Council by the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association and companion cooperation in building the national toxicological database have contributed to the drop in number of accidental poisonings. The campaign continues in the effort to reduce the number of such poisonings to zero. The following is the Poison Prevention chapter of The Consumer Products Handbook.

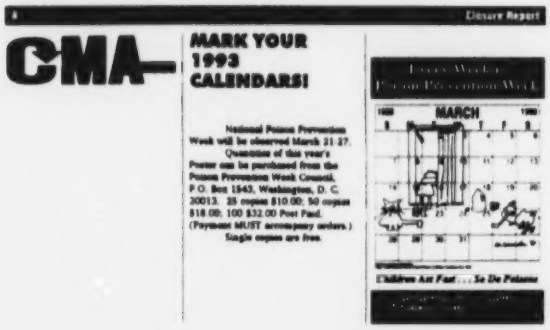
A re-focusing of national resources during the post-World War II era brought rapid growth to many American industries, including the household consumer products industry.

Wartime infrastructure such as factories and manufacturing centers was reverted to the business of serving the country's domestic needs and its interrupted pursuit of the American dream. Pride of ownership in the home, a demand for better cars and home appliances, and the quest for more leisure time combined to stimulate American ingenuity. This dynamic period of innovation produced dramatic advances in research and technology, as early versions of today's household products took off in the marketplace—making the idea of modern conveniences a reality for millions of homemakers eager for a better life.

This new diversity of products brought with it the need for better communication of information on how to avoid accidental exposures to consumer products, and what medical treatment is necessary after accidental exposures occur. Industry scientists and medical specialists responded by developing toxicological and safety data and helping to establish a system of poison control centers to take consumer calls and provide expert advice during emergencies.

Today, thanks in large part to companies' cooperation in providing crucial information about product ingredients to poison control centers, detailed toxicological data

The Closure Manufacturers Association promoted sales of the Council's poster through their "Closure Report" newsletter.


Closure Report

CMA—

MARK YOUR 1993 CALENDARS!

National Poison Prevention Week will be observed March 21-27. Quantities of this year's Poster can be purchased from the Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, D.C. 20013. 25 copies $10.00; 50 copies $18.00; 100 $32.00 Post Paid. (Payment MUST accompany orders.) Single copies are free.

NARD: Representing Independent Retail Pharamacy published an article about poison prevention in NARD Journal and encouraged their members to order a kit of poison prevention information for use at the pharmacy counter.

THE POISON POLICE. With a theme of "Children Act Fast...So Do Poisons," planners expect National Poison Prevention Week to once again help deter countless household mishaps.

"Our theme means parents must always be watchful when household chemicals or drugs are being used," explains Ken Giles, secretary for the Poison Prevention Week Council. "Children act fast, and adults must make sure that household chemicals and drugs are stored away from children at all times."

Posters for this year's event, set for March 21-27, bear the words "Every Week Is Poison Prevention Week."

The week focuses on proper handling of emergency poison-related situations. For instance, if a parent believes a child has ingested poison, they should call one of 100 Poison Control Centers in the United States, using the number listed on the inside cover of the telephone directory.

The Council will also promote proper responses to ingestion of various toxic items, including lead in paint, batteries, some medicines, and poinsettias.

NARD offers a complete Consumer Information Corner kit on poison prevention to members for $15 (nonmembers, $30). It includes camera-ready ads, articles, radio PSAs, and materials from the Poison Prevention Week Safety Council, including the poster. Call 1-800-544-7447 to place your credit card order.

NARD Journal • January 1993

The Council on Family Health and the Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association collaborated with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to launch an education program about tampering. Using a video news release, print and TV public service announcements, and point-of-purchase pamphlets, the campaign provided important messages about medicine tampering.

Pharmacy West magazine published an article about poison prevention in their February issue.

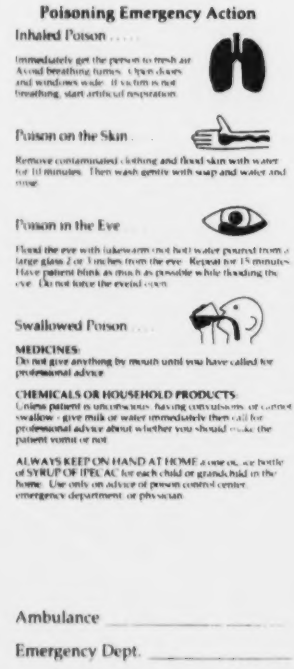
March is National Poison Prevention Week

National Poison Prevention Week in 1993 is March 21-27. The basic theme is "Children Act Fast...So Do Poisons!" and the 1993 poster includes the words "Every Week is Poison Prevention Week."

The Poison Prevention Week Council is alerting everyone to the fact that parents must be watchful when household chemicals or drugs are being used. Many accidents happen when adults are using a product but are distracted (the telephone or doorbell for example) for a few moments. Children act fast, and adults must make sure that household chemicals and drugs are stored away from children at all times.

Information on preventing poisonings can be obtained by writing Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013. The publication, *List of Materials — 1993*, lists available resources and their sources of supply. ■

Wal-Mart Pharmacies nationwide distributed a "Home Poison Prevention Guide" with safety tips and first aid information.


Poisoning Emergency Action

Inhaled Poison

Immediately get the person to fresh air. Avoid breathing fumes. Open doors and windows wide. If victim is not breathing, start artificial respiration.

Poison on the Skin

Remove contaminated clothing and flood skin with water for 10 minutes. Then wash gently with soap and water and rinse.

Poison in the Eye

Flood the eye with lukewarm (not hot) water poured from a large glass 2 or 3 inches from the eye. Repeat for 15 minutes. Have patient blink as much as possible while flooding the eye. Do not force the eyelid open.

Swallowed Poison

MEDICINES: Do not give anything by mouth until you have called for professional advice.

CHEMICALS OR HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS: Unless patient is unconscious, having convulsions or cannot swallow - give milk or water immediately then call for professional advice about whether you should make the patient vomit or not.

ALWAYS KEEP ON HAND AT HOME a one oz. size bottle of SYRUP OF IPECAC for each child or grandchild in the home. Use only on advice of poison control center, emergency department, or physician.

Ambulance _____

Emergency Dept. _____

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CONTRIBUTORS TO NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK

The Poison Prevention Week Council relies upon voluntary financial contributions to produce its print and audiovisual materials each year. We gratefully acknowledge the following contributors to the 1993 observance:

POISON PREVENTION WEEK COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK:

American Academy of Clinical Toxicology
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Poison Control Centers
American Association of Retired Persons
American College of Emergency Physicians
American Managed Care Pharmacy Association
American Medical Association
American Petroleum Institute
American Pharmaceutical Association
American Society of Hospital Pharmacists
Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association
Closure Manufacturers Association
Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association
Food Marketing Institute
NARD: Representing Independent Retail Pharmacy
National Agricultural Chemicals Association
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association
Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association
Soap and Detergent Association

CORPORATE CONTRIBUTORS:

Calmar Dispensing Systems
Owens-Brockway Prescription Products Inc.
Owens-Illinois Closure Inc.
Parke-Davis, Division of Warner-Lambert Company
Roxane Laboratories Inc.
Vi-Jon Laboratories

The Poison Prevention Week Council also appreciates the assistance provided by Barry J. Hart and James Saxenian of Jones, Day, Reavis & Poque about the Council's financial status. Their professional advice was freely given.

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES

★★★

ALABAMA

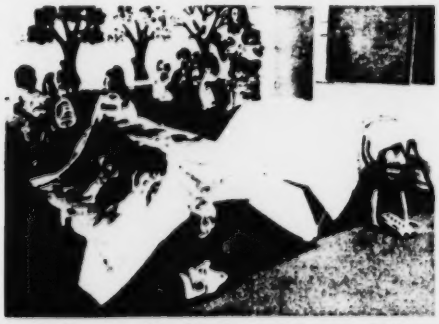
The Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Marshall County (Guntersville) presented poison prevention puppet shows to 1,300 first graders in several elementary schools. Using the slogan "Learn to Spot Poisons" and a logo developed by high school students, the RSVP volunteers emphasized the hazards of iron pills and lookalike poisons.

ALASKA

The Kodiak Area Native Association Pharmacy (Kodiak) distributed poison prevention publications and syrup of ipecac. Through radio public service announcements, safety messsages were broadcast reaching the six villages of Kodiak Island. Pharmacy staff members made several poison prevention talks to preschool and kindergarten classes.

ARIZONA

The Phoenix office of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) helped with several media interviews about poison prevention, including an article in *Raising Arizona Kids Magazine*. Good Samaritan Regional Poison Center (Phoenix) also particiapted in media interviews and distributed poison prevention packets.



The Yavapai County Health Department's Injury Prevention Program (Prescott) presented poison prevention programs to preschool, kindergarten and first grade classes. Using puppets and tunnels built with chairs and sheets, the health educators emphasized how to recognize poisonous substances.

Tuba City Indian Medical Center Pharmacy (Tuba City) invited school children to visit their facility to receive poison prevention information. A local TV station helped encourage consumers to visit the pharmacy during Poison Prevention Week.

Several organizations in Arizona cooperated on a statewide poison prevention program, distributing packets to all community and hospital pharmacies in Arizona. The cooperating groups included the Arizona Pharmacy Association, Arizona Society of Hospital Pharmacists, Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center, and Samaritan Regional Poison Center. These organizations also sent poison prevention packets to daycare centers in Phoenix and Tucson and to the media. A large poster, using children's illustrations, was included in the Journal of the Arizona Pharmacy Association.

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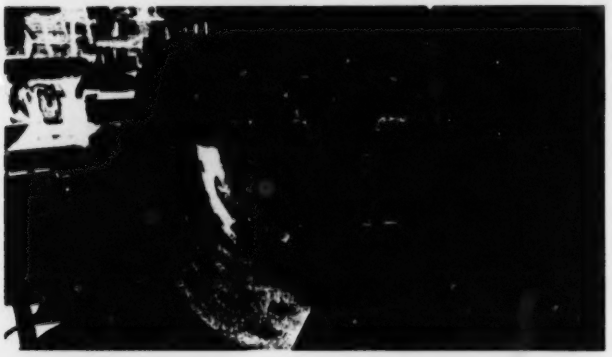
ARKANSAS

The Pharmacy Department at Arkansas Children's Hospital (Little Rock) presented a display of poison prevention information. Cutouts of products helped patients identify common household poisons.



The Governor of Arkansas issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

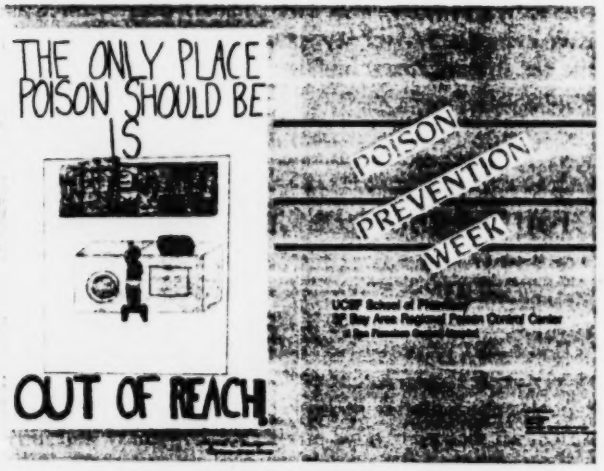
CONNECTICUT

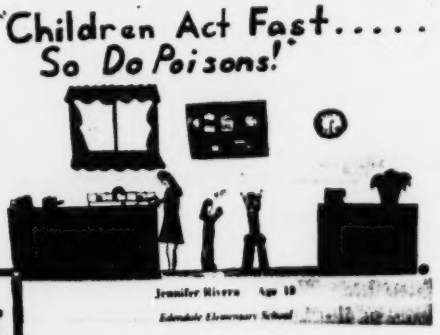
The Governor of Connecticut proclaimed Poison Prevention Week in a ceremony which included officials of the Connecticut Poison Control Center and the family of a 1-year-old child who was poisoned by a household cleaning product.

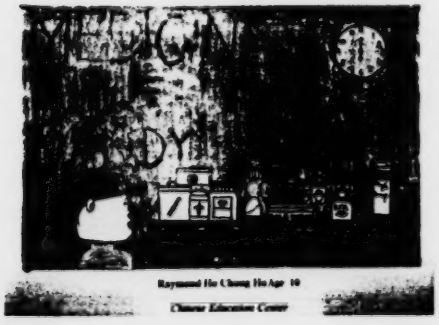
The Connecticut Poison Control Center conducted several media interviews and distributed 75,000 copies of poison prevention literature to hospitals, schools, and community organizations.

CALIFORNIA

The San Francisco Bay Area Regional Poison Control Center and the University of California School of Pharmacy co-sponsored a poster contest in elementary schools. Over 250 poison prevention posters were submitted. One was selected for reprinting, and several posters were awarded U.S. Savings Bonds. The Pharmacists Society of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Society of Hospital pharmacists donated the prize money and funds to reprint the winning poster.







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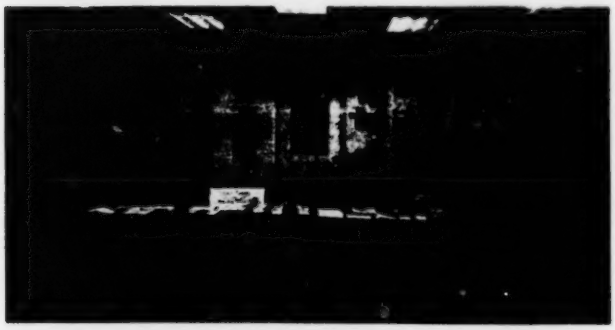
The San Diego office of CPSC distributed publications to the Wal-Mart pharmacy in El Centro. Several media interviews about poison prevention also were conducted. The mayor of El Centro issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

The Los Angeles office of CPSC joined the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services in warning about the hazard of iron poisoning. Safety alerts in English and Spanish were distributed to the media, and poison prevention messages also were publicized by Spanish and Korean media. Several newspaper articles (including one in the *Los Angeles Times*) highlighted the hazard of iron poisonings.

The Golden Empire Society of Hospital Pharmacists (Bakersfield) and the Kern County Pharmacists Association sponsored a poster contest in the city schools. Wal-Mart donated several prizes for the poster winners. The Mayor of Bakersfield issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week. Poison prevention information was distributed at a local shopping mall and other sites.



The University of California Davis Medical Center Regional Poison Control Center (Sacramento) published a booklet entitled "The Poison Center Answer Book." This publication provides answers to frequently-asked questions about first aid, plant poisonings, insect bites, lead poisoning, and other topics.

B12 FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1993 ★ LOS ANGELES TIMES

ORANGE COUNTY

Iron Poisoning in Children Climbs

■ Accidents: Southland leads state in cases of youngsters dying after swallowing iron supplements, but officials don't know why.

By TOM McQUEENEY
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

ORANGE—California leads the nation in childhood deaths due to [illegible]. Then in 1991, in that one year alone, there were 11 deaths, Arcus said. "It jumped dramatically."

Five of those deaths occurred in California.

Because of the alarming increase, Arcus said, the state has begun gathering information about iron poisonings to find some reason for the change.

Initial data indicates that the children are dying after swallowing sugar-coated vitamin and mineral tablets containing iron, Arcus said. The pills are most often those [illegible]. UCI Medical Center poison-control center handled 452 reported cases of iron poisonings in Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Inyo and Mono counties. Yet none of those children died.

No children died from iron poisonings in 1990, either, in the five-county region.

But of the 492 reported iron poisonings in the region in 1991, three children under age 6 died. In 1992, six children in the five-county region died of iron poisoning.

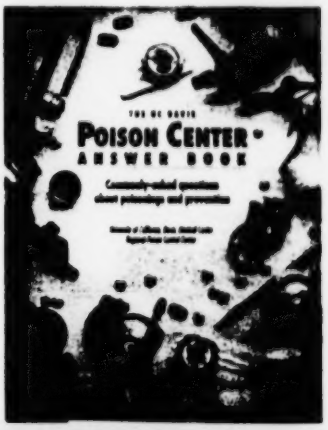
"The sheer numbers of exposure [illegible] to the bottle.

• Keep it locked and out of a child's reach.

• Never take the pills in front of children.

They advised parents to call 911 or a poison-control center immediately if they suspect their child has taken iron supplement. Symptoms of poisoning may not show up until a child already has been severely injured by the corrosive action of the iron, Arcus said.

Symptoms include stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea and sleepiness, usually within 30 minutes to two hours after taking the iron.



Poison prevention packets were distributed to children's hospitals, health clinics, baby furniture stores, and other groups. The University of California at Riverside Cooperative Extension provided public service announcements to Spanish radio and TV stations throughout Southern California.

Poison prevention packets were distributed to several schools and hospitals in California, including Logan Street Elementary School (Los Angeles), Palo Verde Hospital Pharmacy (Blythe), Mission Hospital (Huntington Beach), and City of Hope Medical Center (Duarte).

Pharmacy staff members at the U.S. Naval Hospital (Yokosuka, Japan) promoted poison prevention through media interviews, distribution of publications, and dispensing of syrup of ipecac through the pediatric clinic.

Kaiser Permanente Medical Center (Riverside) Pharmacy staff members distributed free syrup of ipecac and poison prevention materials to patients and employees. A display of "look-alikes" was presented in the clinic lobby.

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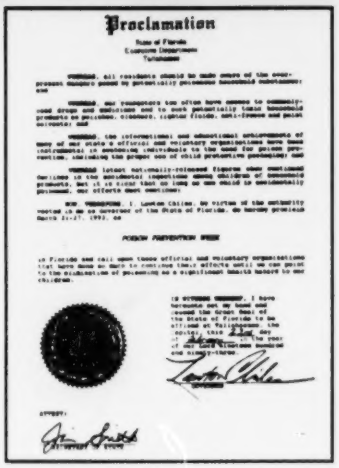
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The National Capital Poison Center at Georgetown University Hospital hosted the National Poison Prevention Week news conference. The poison center also provided information for local pharmacies, schools, and hospitals to use in designing their own exhibits and programs. Poison center staff members also appeared on several radio and TV programs.

FLORIDA

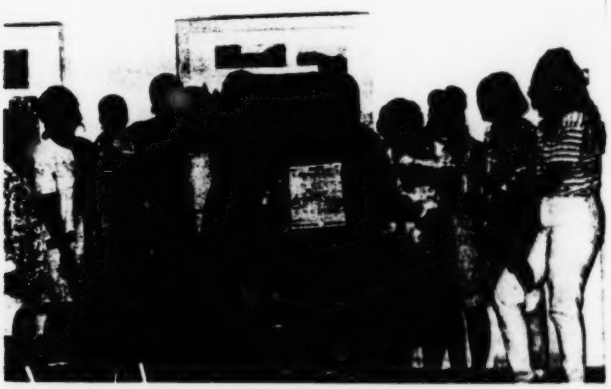
The Ft. Lauderdale office of CPSC distributed a safety alert about iron poisonings (in English and Spanish) to the media and to several schools and community organizations. Poison prevention publications were distributed at local shopping malls and health clinics.


Proclamation

The Governor of Florida issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

The Pinellas Pharmacists Society (St. Petersburg) presented poison prevention programs to elementary schools in their region, reaching more than 12,000 children in kindergarten through second grade. Children were encouraged to take home a poison prevention checklist to use with their parents.

The Florida Poison Information Center (Miami) at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital distributed poison prevention information in English and Spanish. Pharmacy students from Southeastern College of Pharmacy staffed an exhibit at a local mall. Several media interviews were conducted.

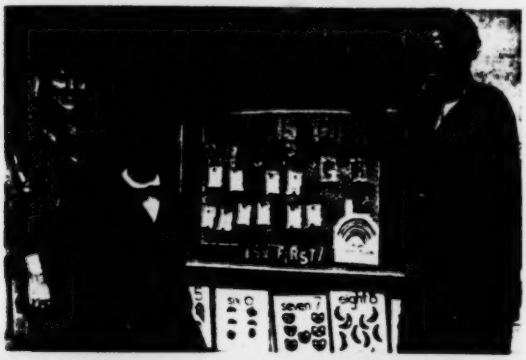


GEORGIA

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (Atlanta) produced public service announcements for local media to promote poison prevention.

The Atlanta office of CPSC made several poison prevention presentations, including the annual meeting of Safe Kids of Georgia.

Egleston Children's Hospital at Emory University (Atlanta) conducted poison prevention programs for 5,000 students in 28 elementary schools. Pharmacy and child safety department staff members presented a poison prevention game to the students and discussed poison prevention topics.



IDAHO

The Idaho Poison Center at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center (Boise) collaborated with McDonald's Restaurants to host an annual "poison prevention fair." Over 500 adults and children participated in the fair, playing games and receiving poison prevention information.

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ILLINOIS

The Veterans Administration Hospital (Hines) reprinted and distributed copies of CPSC's "Poison Lookout Checklist."

INDIANA

The Indiana State Board of Health co-sponsored a poster contest with the Indianapolis Poison Control Center and distributed materials to their employees. The Board of Health also distributed publications in their building lobby.

KANSAS

The Medicine Shoppe (Liberal) distributed poison prevention material to third grade students in several schools. The pharmacy also distributed coupons for free syrup of ipecac. Several presentations were made to daycare centers and schools.

KENTUCKY

The Product Safety Branch of the Kentucky State Cabinet for Human Resources distributed posters and other publications to health departments, pediatricians, and others. Approximately 13,500 copies of publications were distributed statewide.

The Governor of Kentucky issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week. A news release entitled "Every Week is Poison Prevention Week" was distributed.

The Kentucky State Fire Marshal's office conducted workshops for daycare providers and senior centers, offering poison prevention and other safety information.

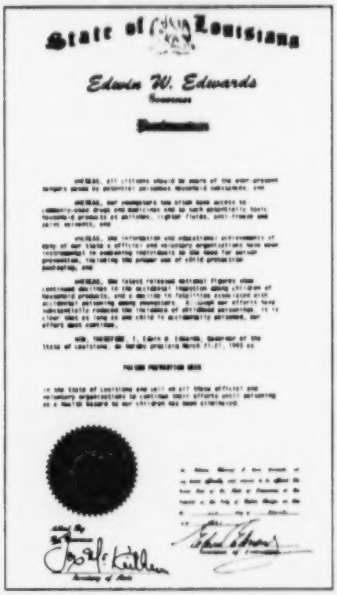
Appalachian Regional Healthcare pharmacies in several communities conducted poison prevention programs. The 12 hospitals and primary care centers serve rural areas of eastern Kentucky, southwest West Virginia, and Virginia.

- Beckley Hospital (West Virginia) displayed poison prevention information in the hospital lobby. The pharmacist gave a poison prevention presentation to second grade students in a local school. Coupons for free syrup of ipecac were distributed.

- Harlan Pharmacy (Kentucky) worked with the Hospital Auxiliary to distribute syrup of ipecac and poison prevention information.
- The Regional Medical Center Hospital (Hazard, Kentucky) distributed poison prevention information and coupons for free syrup of ipecac.
- The McDowell Pharmacy, Middlesboro Pharmacy, Morgan County Clinic, Buchanan Clinic Pharmacy, and Homeplace Clinic Pharmacy (Kentucky) distributed poison prevention publications and offered free syrup of ipecac.
- Central Pharmacy (South Williamson, Kentucky) produced a video of puppet show entitled "Eagle Eye Teaches About Poison Prevention." The video was aired on local TV during Poison Prevention Week. The Prescription Division sponsored a coloring contest for children, and winning entries were displayed in the pharmacy.

LOUISIANA

The Louisiana Drug and Poison Information Center (Monroe) distributed 1,650 packets to hospitals, public libraries, daycare centers, and public health units throughout Louisiana. The packets contained telephone stickers with the poison center phone number, brochures and checklists, and posters. Staff members from the poison center made presentations to elementary schools and community groups and also conducted several media interviews.


State of Louisiana

Edwin W. Edwards

Governor

Proclamation

The Governor of Louisiana issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

MAINE

The Maine Safe Kids Coalition distributed a news release about poison prevention and included poison prevention in their newsletter. In collaboration with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Maine Safe Kids Coalition displayed a poison prevention exhibit at the state Parent Teacher Association annual convention.

Maine Poison Control Center (Portland) distributed approximately 21,000 poison prevention publications and displayed posters at Maine Medical Center. The poison center also provided public service announcements to local radio stations.

Mid-Maine Medical Center Pharmacy (Waterville) included poison prevention information in their newsletter and offered free bottles of syrup of ipecac. Pharmacy staff members presented several displays of poison prevention information for hospital employees and the public.

MARYLAND

The Maryland Poison Center at University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (Baltimore) helped coordinate statewide poison prevention activities. Working with Columbia Medical Plan and Blue Cross/Blue Shield, the poison center made presentations to schools in five counties and Baltimore City. Publications and videos were distributed to all Boards of Education and hospitals in Maryland.

A poison prevention banner was displayed over a major intersection near the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore.

Baltimore Gas & Electric included poison prevention information in a bill insert for their 900,000 residential customers.

Safety Council of Maryland distributed poison prevention information to more than 600 member companies and organizations.

Rite Aid pharmacists made presentations at several schools in Maryland.

Dorchester EMS presented poison prevention programs at St. Clair School.

The Governor of Maryland and the Mayor of Baltimore issued proclamations for Poison Prevention Week.

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MASSACHUSETTS

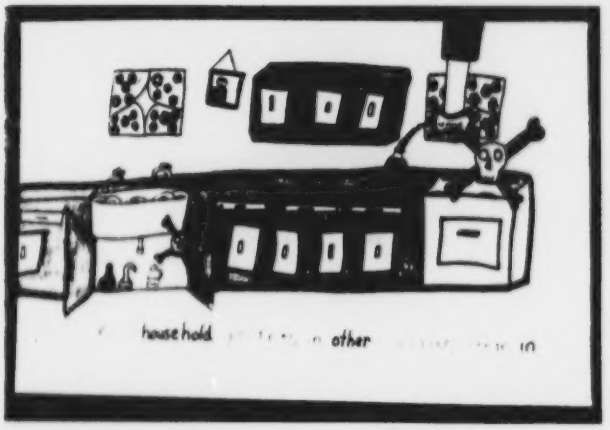
The Massachusetts Poison Control Center and the Boston office of CPSC issued a news release to all Massachusetts media. ABC-TV "Good Morning America" interviewed staff members from the poison center for a report aired during National Poison Prevention Week.

The CPSC office also staffed a poison prevention exhibit at Boston's Museum of Science. The exhibit offered information about hazardous substances, including carbon monoxide. Nearly 4,000 consumers viewed the exhibit.

Goddard Memorial Hospital Pharmacy (Stoughton) distributed poison prevention information and conducted several media interviews about poison prevention. At a health fair at the local mall, pharmacy staff members distributed publications and free bottles of syrup of ipecac.

MICHIGAN

The Regional Poison Control Center of Children's Hospital (Detroit) held a poster contest for patients attending the outpatient clinics. The winning poster will be used in next year's poison prevention campaign. The poison center distributed 5,000 packets of information to hospitals, physicians, daycare centers, pharmacies, dentists, teachers, and community groups statewide. Approximately 75,000 telephone stickers were ordered in response to this mailing.

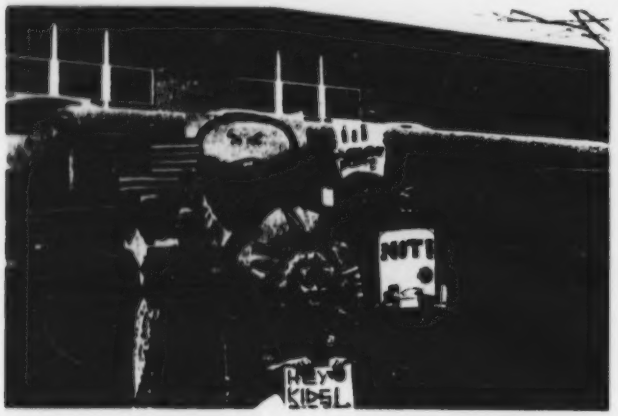


MINNESOTA

The Minnesota Attorney General used poison prevention information in a column distributed to newspapers throughout Minnesota. The column focused on iron poisonings.

MISSOURI

The school nurse at two Lutheran schools (St. Paul School in Des Peres and Immanuel School in Olivett) conducted a poison prevention program for students in preschool through 8th grade. Each student received publications on poison prevention and participated in a poster contest. Winners were given prizes and each student received "Mr. Yuk" stickers.



The Regional Poison Center at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital (St. Louis) sponsored its fourth annual poster contest. All elementary schools in St. Louis were invited to participate, and over 500 students responded. The winner received a pizza party for her class, and the winning poster was displayed at the hospital throughout Poison Prevention Week. The poison center also distributed

a poison prevention video to 200 elementary schools and provided poison prevention materials to 72 member hospitals in the Missouri Poison System. Several St. Louis supermarkets (Schnucks, Nationals, and Dierbergs) displayed the poster during Poison Prevention Week.

Children's Mercy Hospital (Kansas City) distributed syrup of ipecac to outpatient families, conducted a coloring contest for children, and displayed poison prevention information in the lobby.

MONTANA

The pharmacists of Blackfeet Community Hospital (Browning) presented poison prevention information to second-grade students. Students were shown "look-alikes" and were given poison prevention publications. Students also used poison prevention messages to decorate bags used for prescription medicines.

NEBRASKA

The Governor of Nebraska issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

The Poison Center at Childrens Hospital (Omaha) worked with Pizza Hut to distribute publications and sponsor a coloring contest. Albertsons, HyVee, and Baker supermarkets also distributed poison prevention publications. Poison Center staff members made several presentations to daycare centers and area schools. In collaboration with the Omaha Pharmacist Association, a campaign was conducted to turn in old prescription medicines.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The New Hampshire Poison Information Center, located at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (Lebanon), provided poison prevention information at a display in the hospital. Free syrup of ipecac was distributed, and poison center staff members answered questions and provided safety tips. Vocational school participants in a pesticide program attended the display and discussed prevention of pesticide poisionings.

The Governor of New Hampshire issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

NEW JERSEY

The Valley Hospital Pharmacy (Ridgewood) presented a display at a local mall and distributed publications and free syrup of ipecac. The Toys R Us store in Paramus sponsored a poison prevention coloring contest for children. Pharmacists made poison prevention presentations to preschoolers at several daycare centers. These presentations were sponsored by Roerig Pharmaceuticals and Pfizer Inc.

The pharmacist at Thrifty Drugs (Piscataway) made several presentations to preschool children in Piscataway Township. In cooperation with the Middlesex County Health Educator, she also presented programs to first-grade students in a local elementary school. Children and their parents also were given tours of the Thrifty Drugs pharmacy to see how prescriptions are filled.

NEW MEXICO

The New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center at the University of New Mexico (Albuquerque) coordinated a statewide poison prevention campaign that reached all 33 counties. Packets were mailed to all retail and hospital pharmacies, public health departments, Indian Health Service clinics, hospital emergency rooms, fire departments, and police departments. Seventy-nine organizations or individuals participated in the poison prevention program by distributing publications and syrup of ipecac, giving presentations to groups, or conducting poster contests. Some highlights:

—The New Mexico Pharmaceutical Association used the statewide slogan "Is Your Paradise Poison-Proof?" on their journal *El Boticario.*

—Qual-Med Inc., a health maintenance organization, published a full page of poison prevention information in their magazine.

—A nurse at Kaseman Hospital set up a display in the hospital lobby and distributed publications to employees and patients.

—Nurses at Southwest Valley Health Department (Albuquerque) set up a display in the clinic lobby and also distributed materials through well-child clinics and home daycare projects.

—A pharmacist at Rehoboth McKinely Christian Hospital (Gallup) made presentations to preschool and elementary school students.

—A Nurse at the Hospital Emergency Room (Alamogordo) designed a "look-alike" display to help children understand that some poisons look like common household items.

The Governor of New Mexico and the Mayor of Albuquerque issued proclamations for Poison Prevention Week.

NEW YORK

Six poison centers comprise the New York State Regional Poison Control Network. These poison centers work cooperatively to conduct public and professional education programs and to respond to poisonings. The statewide effort has been remarkably successful. In New York State, poisoning deaths in children under age 5 have decreased from 20 in 1986 to 5 in 1991.

The New York City Regional Poison Control Center sponsored a two-day toxicology conference for health care providers, to help prepare poison specialists for certification by the AAPCC.

The Hudson Valley Regional Poison Center (Nyack) sponsored a poster contest for first-grade and second-grade students. Winners were awarded prizes donated by merchants at a local mall. The poison center distributed publications and free syrup of ipecac. Head Start teachers from Clinton and Greene Counties received poison prevention training.

The Central New York Poison Control Center (Syracuse) sponsored a poster contest for students in grades 1 through 6. Winners were awarded prizes during a ceremony at the Mayor's office. Winning posters were displayed at University Hospital during March. Publications were distributed to several schools and health organizations. Wegmans, Fay's Drugs, Kinney Drugs, and Tri-R Drugs also disbributed poison prevention information and syrup of ipecac.

Finger Lakes Regional Poison Control Center (Rochester) distributed poison prevention information to 450 childcare providers at a conference sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension's Human Development Program. Poison Center staff members presented programs to schools and distributed literature at health fairs. The national poster for Poison Prevention Week was submitted by Finger Lakes Regional Poison Control Center.

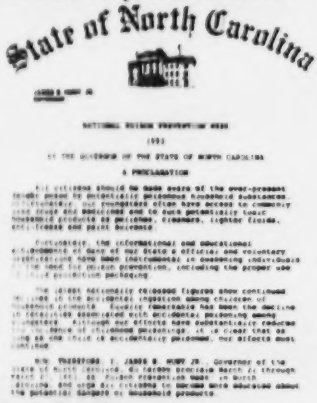
Western New York Regional Poison Control Center (Buffalo) distributed information through several hospitals and presented programs to head start centers. Several media interviews were conducted.

The Long Island Regional Poison Control Center hosted a display in the main lobby of Winthrop University Hospital. Brochures, telephone stickers, and coupons for free bottles of syrup of ipecac were distributed. News releases on poison prevention and the dangers of iron poisonings were distributed in collaboration with the New York State Consumer Protection Board and the New York Office of CPSC.

The Pharmacy Department of Calvary Hospital (Bronx) coordinated a display for Poison Prevention Week. The Pharmacy Newsletter for March also focused on poison prevention.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Governor of North Carolina issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.


State of North Carolina

The pharmacist with Eckerd Drugs-Five Points (Raleigh) worked with Clayton Animal Hospital (Clayton) to conduct a poison prevention program for Raleigh and Clayton communities. Poison prevention presentations were made to kindergarten students using a cartoon mascot "Gator Rex" to present the messages. Children took home checklists to check their homes for poisons; certificates were given to those who returned the completed checklists.

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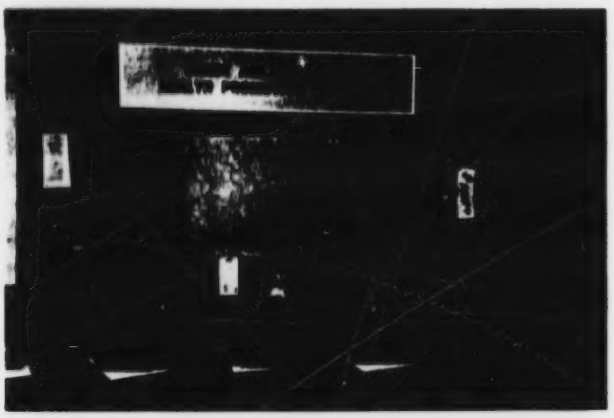
NORTH DAKOTA

The Minot Air Force Base observed Poison Prevention Week with a display of information and examples of child-resistant latches for cabinets and drawers. The Health Promotion Manager made presentations to Girl Scouts and troop leaders. An article about poison prevention was published in the base newspaper.

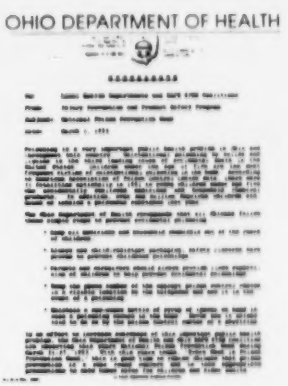


OHIO

The Cleveland Health Museum sponsored a poison prevention program at the museum. Children visiting the museum received poison prevention information from tour leaders.

The Drug and Poison Information Center at the University of Cincinnati conducted a multi-media poison prevention program throughout their region. Media interviews were conducted, information packets were distributed, and programs were presented to schools and community groups. Many of the 30 member hospitals distributed publications and free syrup of ipecac. Several pharmacies also distributed publications and free ipecac.

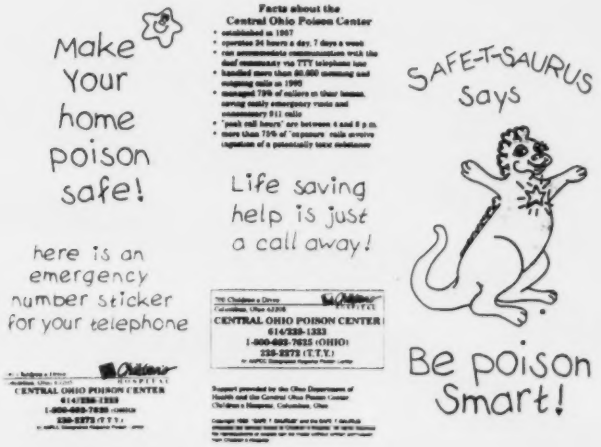
The Ohio Department of Health (Columbus) and Ohio Safe Kids Coalition collaborated to distribute packets to 150 local health departments and 8 local Safe Kids Coalitions. In turn, these local groups issued news releases to their media contacts, reaching statewide audiences. Emphasis was placed on preventing iron poisonings.


OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The Governor of Ohio issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

The Tuscarawas County and Lancaster Area Safe Kids Coalitions distributed poison prevention packets and did a number of radio/TV interviews.

The Central Ohio Poison Center at Children's Hospital (Columbus) distributed a new brochure incorporating a safety ambassador, "Safe-T-Saurus." The brochure was distributed to 3,400 employees of Children's Hospital during Poison Prevention Week. Poison prevention materials also were distributed to preschool children through Head Start.


Make Your home poison safe!
here is an emergency number sticker for your telephone
Facts about the Central Ohio Poison Center
Life saving help is just a call away!
CENTRAL OHIO POISON CENTER
614/228-1323
1-800-682-7625 (OHIO)
220-2272 (T.T.Y.)
SAFE-T-SAURUS Says
Be poison Smart!

OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma Safe Kids Coalition, Children's Hospital of Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Poison Control Center distributed news releases to the media and distributed thousands of copies of publications. Poison prevention information was distributed at an annual health festival at the mall.

The Oklahoma County Pharmacists Association worked with 24 pharmacies to distribute more than 2,000 bottles of syrup of ipecac.

The Governor of Oklahoma issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

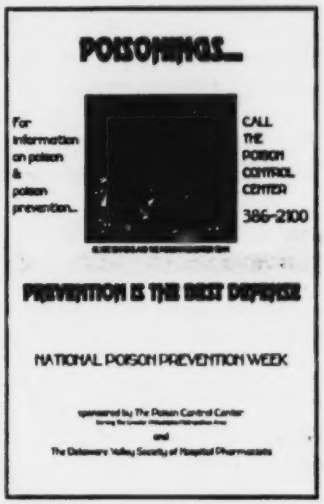
PENNSYLVANIA

Geisinger Medical Center (Danville) distributed poison prevention information at several displays and school presentations.

The Poison Control Center at Children's Hospital (Philadelphia) distributed poison prevention materials to several organizations, presented a display in the hospital lobby, conducted media interviews, and encouraged pharmacies to participate in a program to collect and dispose of outdated medications.

The Mayor of Philadelphia issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

The Delaware Valley Society of Hospital Pharmacists and the Poison Control Center produced a poster for distribution to hospitals throughout the region. The poster emphasized the poison center's number.



Allegheny County Safe Kids Coalition worked with Allegheny County Health Department, Pittsburgh Poison Center, Allegheny County Pharmaceutical Association, Blue Cross of Western Pennsylvania, and the CPSC to distribute poison prevention kits to more than 500 pharmacies in Allegheny County. The kits contained "Mr. Yuk" stickers and poison prevention checklists. Efforts also were made to encourage funding for the Pittsburgh Poison Center, the only remaining poison center in the western half of Pennsylvania. The poison center takes more than 150,000 calls annually.

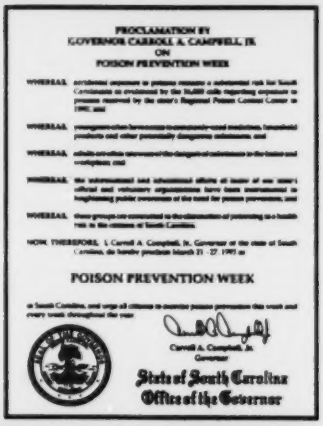
RHODE ISLAND

The CPSC state designee in Rhode Island conducted media interviews for Poison Prevention Week. He also distributed posters and checklists to schools, health departments, pharmacists, and the media.

The Rhode Island Safe Kids Coalition included poison prevention information in their ongoing programs.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The Governor of South Carolina issued a proclamation for Poison Prevention Week.

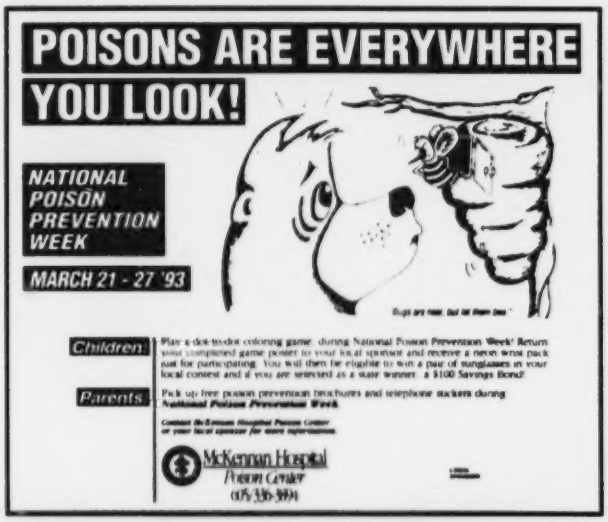

PROCLAMATION BY
GOVERNOR CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
ON
POISON PREVENTION WEEK

POISON PREVENTION WEEK

State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor

SOUTH DAKOTA

McKennan Poison Center (Sioux Falls) coordinated a statewide poison prevention program using the theme "Poisons Are Everywhere You Look." Pharmacies and hospitals sponsored a coloring contest and helped distribute publications and telephone stickers. Two state winners were selected and received prizes. The poison center also sponsored a toxicology conference for health care professionals.



TENNESSEE

The Middle Tennessee Poison Center (Nashville) distributed poison prevention information to the media, hospitals, pediatricians, and health departments. Over 10,000 pamphlets were distributed. A display of "look-alikes" was presented at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and several presentations were made to area United Way agencies. The message "Poison Proof Week" was displayed in window lights on the sides of the American General Building in downtown Nashville.

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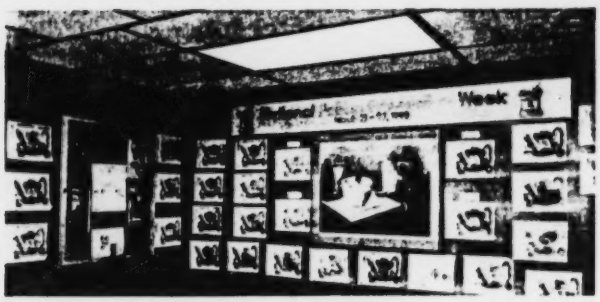
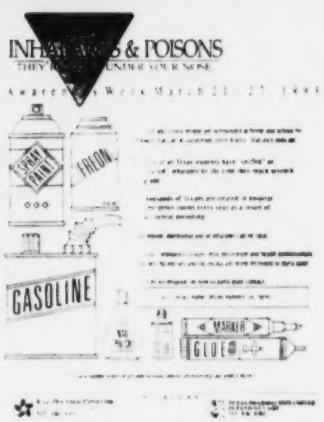
TEXAS

The Department of Pharmacy at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospial (Houston) sponsored a coloring contest for children ages 4–9. Sample entries in the contest were displayed in the hospital lobby. Pharmacy staff members distributed publications and made presentations to third-grade students at a local school. More than 4,000 people received poison prevention information through these activities.



The Texas Pharmacists United in Patient Care and the Texas Prevention Partnership co-sponsored a statewide poison prevention effort entitled "Inhalants and Poisons: They're right under your nose." This campaign focused on the hazards of accidental poisoning and inhalant abuse. Publications were distributed to the media and to community groups. The Governor issued a proclamation for "Inhalant and Poison Awareness Week" and the Texas Senate and House also endorsed the observance.



VERMONT

The CPSC office in Boston assisted the Vermont Department of Health by providing poison prevention materials for distribution to eight district offices throughout the State.

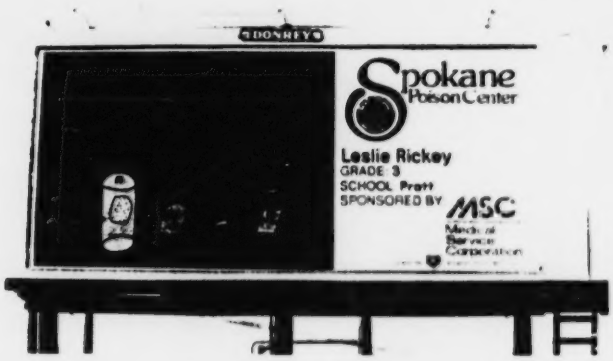
VIRGINIA

The Virginia PTA Bulletin included an article about poison prevention in the February issue of their newsletter.

WASHINGTON

Highline Community Hospital (Seattle) reprinted the CPSC "Poison Lookout Checklist" for use in infant safety and parent education classes.

The Spokane Poison Center held its 18th annual poster contest, and 2200 students in grades 3–5 participated. Ten winners were selected and displayed on billboards for one month beginning March 21, 1993. Donrey Outdoor Advertising, McDonald's Restaurants, Toys R Us, and Learning World assisted through corporate sponsorship.



The poison center helped distribute free syrup of ipecac through Deaconess Medical Center, Deaconess Rehabilitation Institute, and Valley Hospital and Medical Center.

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Poison Center and the West Virginia University Medical Center School of Pharmacy (Charleston) distributed public service announcements to the media and conducted a number of interviews. Poison center staff members made several presentations to Girl Scout troops, schools, and other organizations.

Kroger and Fruth Pharmacies distributed poison prevention publications and telephone stickers.

Serveral hospitals distributed publications and "Mr. Yuk" stickers to their employees and visitors.

Companies who provided poison prevention materials to their employees included Rhone-Poulenc Chemical Company, Shawnee Hills Industries, GE Specialty Chemicals, and Ace Hardware.

In all, the West Virginia Poison Center coordinated the distribution of 20,000 poison prevention publications and 15,000 "Mr. Yuk" stickers throughout the State.

The National Center for Health Statistics in Washington, D.C. receives mortality reports from all 50 states. The annual data reports show that the number of deaths involving all household products among children under five years of age declined since 1972. The Consumer Product Safety Commission also examines the number of deaths resulting from the accidental ingestion of aspirin-containing products. The first regulation passed under the Poison Prevention Packaging Act required child-resistant packaging for aspirin. At the time the regulation passed, aspirin products were the most frequently ingested product by young children.

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5 INVOLVING HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

Deaths Due To All Household Chemicals			*Deaths Due To Aspirin Products*		
Year	*# Deaths*	*Decline since 1972*	*Year*	*# Deaths*	*Decline since 1972*
1972	216	—	1972	46	—
1973	149	31%	1973	26	43%
1974	135	38%	1974	24	48%
1975	114	47%	1975	17	63%
1976	105	51%	1976	25	46%
1977	94	56%	1977	11	76%
1978	81	63%	1978	13	72%
1979	78	64%	1979	8	83%
1980	73	66%	1980	12	74%
1981	55	75%	1981	6	87%
1982	67	69%	1982	5	89%
1983	55	75%	1983	7	85%
1984	64	70%	1984	7	85%
1985	56	74%	1985	0	100%
1986	59	73%	1986	2	96%
1987	31	86%	1987	3	93%
1988	42	81%	1988	3	93%
1989	55	75%	1989	2	96%
1990	49	77%	1990	1	98%

Poison Prevention Week Council

MARCH 20-26, 1994
NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK

Chairman:
Darla Williamson

Vice Chairman:
Evelyne McFeaters

Treasurer:
Bonnie Dean

Secretary:
Ken Giles
P.O. Box 1543
Washington, D.C. 20013
(301) 504-0580

POISON PREVENTION WEEK COUNCIL MEMBERS

American Academy of Clinical Toxicology
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Poison Control Centers
American Association of Retired Persons
American College of Emergency Physicians
American Dental Association
American Managed Care Pharmacy Association
American Medical Association
American Nurses' Association
American Petroleum Institute
American Pharmaceutical Association
American Public Health Association
American Red Cross
American Society of Hospital Pharmacists
Art & Craft Materials Institute, Inc
Boy Scouts of America
Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association, Inc
Closure Manufacturers Association
Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association
Council For Responsible Nutrition
Council on Family Health
Food Marketing Institute
Girl Scouts of the United States of America
National Agricultural Chemicals Association
National Association of Broadcasters
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates & Practitioners
NARD: Representing Independent Retail Pharmacy
National Paint and Coatings Association
National Safety Council
Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association
Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association
Soap and Detergent Association
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
U.S. Department of Agriculture—Extension Service
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—Food and Drug Administration, Center For Drug Evaluation and Research
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

A Profile

Public Law 87-319 (approved September 26, 1961) requested the President annually to designate the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week. The observance, sponsored by the Poison Prevention Week Council, was designed to alert the American people to the problem of accidental poisonings. For the past 32 years National Poison Prevention Week has focused on preventing poisonings among children under 5 years of age.

Purpose:
The Poison Prevention Week Council provides a focal point for the 37 members' activities, coordinating plans, and avoiding duplication of efforts.

The Council publishes annually a *List of Materials* (often reproduced in association journals), an *Editor's Fact Sheet*, and suggested proclamations for Governors and local officials. The Council, through the Secretariat, also drafts the Presidential proclamation. It also produces an Annual Report which reflects the activities among the various participating organizations and serves as an "idea mill" for community groups looking for programming possibilities.

The Secretariat also coordinates the annual news conference, provides advice about poison prevention activities, and distributes the Council's materials.

Membership:
Membership on the Council is limited to national organizations with an interest in and commitment to programs aimed at preventing accidental poisonings.

Many of the members contribute financially to the Council, which permits the preparation of the materials described above. There are no membership dues, but these voluntary contributions are the vital ingredients in making the Council independent and the program a successful one. In addition to these contributions, each member organization devises a program reflecting its own interest in the general area of poison prevention and promotes it directly (through radio, TV spot announcements) or indirectly (through its chapters or affiliates).

Meetings:
The Council schedules an annual meeting in the Spring of each year. In addition, a mid-year meeting is scheduled (generally in December) to finalize plans for the upcoming observance.

Officers:
Officers are elected for two-year terms, with the vice-chairman designated the Chairman-elect. The current officers and their affiliations are:

Chairman	Darla Williamson, Closure Manufacturers Association
Vice-Chairman	Evelyne McFeaters, Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association
Secretary	Ken Giles, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Treasurer	Bonnie Dean, American Association of Poison Control Centers

General Information:
The poster for 1994 will be for sale at these prices:
$10 for 25 copies $18 for 50 copies $32 for 100 copies

Checks should be made payable to "Poison Prevention Week Council" and sent to the Council at PO Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013.

We encourage all local groups to send in photos and narratives of your poison prevention activities. We may be able to use your story in next year's Annual Report. Please send your photographs and written summaries of your activities *by May 1, 1994* to Secretary • Poison Prevention Week Council • PO Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013

We look forward to hearing from you.

NATIONAL

POISON PREVENTION WEEK

March 20–26, 1994

EDITOR'S FACT SHEET - 1994

1. **Q. What is National Poison Prevention Week?**

   A. Public Law 87-319 authorizes the President to designate annually the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week. This act of Congress was signed into law on September 26, 1961, by President Kennedy, after which the Poison Prevention Week Council was organized to coordinate this annual event. Congress intended this event as a means for local communities to raise awareness of the dangers of accidental poisonings and to take such preventive measures as the dangers warrant.

2. **Q. Is there a special theme for National Poison Prevention Week?**

   A. Yes, our basic theme is "Children Act Fast . . . So Do Poisons!" This means that parents must always be watchful when household chemicals or drugs are being used. Many accidents happen when adults are using a product but are distracted (for example, by the telephone or the doorbell) for a few moments. Children act fast, and adults must make sure that household chemicals and drugs are stored away from children *at all times.*

3. **Q. If my child is accidentally poisoned or eats or drinks a substance which might be poison, where can I find information on treatment?**

   A. If you think someone has been poisoned, call your poison control center immediately. There are currently some 100 Poison Control Centers in the United States which maintain information for the physician or the public on recommended treatment for the ingestion of household products and medicines. They are familiar with the toxicity (how poisonous it is) of most substances found in the home or know how to find this information. Their phone number can be found on the inside cover of the yellow or white pages of the telephone directory. Keep the number on your phone.

4. **Q. Are there some first aid measures I can take when an ingestion takes place?**

   A. Remain calm. Not all medicines and household chemicals are poisonous, and not all exposures necessarily result in poisoning. For medicines, call the Poison Control Center or physician immediately. For household chemical products, follow first aid instructions on the label, then call the Poison Control Center or physician. If unable to contact them, call your local emergency number (911 in most areas) or the operator. Keep emergency numbers listed near the phone before an emergency arises. When you contact the Poison Control Center or other emergency personnel, be prepared to give the facts to the expert on the other end of the phone.

   Have the label ready when you call the expert. The label provides information concerning the product's contents and advice on what immediate first aid to perform. This will be useful when giving first aid and when you call the Poison Control Center.

   The expert should know:

   — The victim's age.
   — The victim's weight.
   — Existing health conditions or problems.
   — The substance involved: was it swallowed, inhaled, absorbed through skin contact, or splashed into the eyes.

— Any first aid which may have been given.
— If the person has vomited.
— Your location, and how long it will take you to get to the hospital.
— If medicine has been swallowed, do not give anything by mouth until advised by the Poison Control Center.
— If chemicals or household products have been swallowed, offer a small amount of water. Then call for professional advice about whether or not you should make the patient vomit.

Always keep on hand at home a one-ounce bottle of syrup of ipecac for each child or grandchild under age 5 in the home. Use **only** on advice of the Poison Control Center, emergency department, or physician.

5. **Q. Why are so many accidental poisonings related to children under five years of age?**

   A. Children under the age of five are in stages of growth and development in which they are constantly exploring and investigating the world around them. This is the way they learn. It is a normal characteristic and should not be discouraged. Unfortunately, what children see and reach for they usually put in their mouths. It is this hazard to which parents must be alerted. As the youngsters' mobility, ingenuity, and capabilities increase, they can reach medicines and household chemicals even if stored up high. For instance, when children are crawling, they can find such products as drain cleaners stored under the kitchen sink and on the floor. As soon as they are able to stand, they can reach such products as furniture polish on low-lying tables, as well as medications in purses on beds. When they start to climb, they can reach medicine on countertops or open the medicine cabinet and get to the medicine. These products should be locked up where possible, out of the child's reach—even when safety packaging is used. Adults should never leave a medicine or household chemical product unattended while in use; children act fast and can get hold of a product and swallow it during the short time while the adult is answering the telephone or doorbell.

6. **Q. If I find my youngster playing with a bottle of medicine or some household product, how can I tell if he or she has swallowed some and what should I do?**

   A. Reactions vary, depending on the product. Sometimes the child may vomit; or he or she may appear to be drowsy or sluggish. Some of the substance may remain around the child's mouth and teeth. There may be burns around the lips or mouth from corrosive items; or you may be able to smell the product on the child's breath. If a household chemical has been ingested, follow the first aid instructions on the label and then **get medical advice—even if you suspect, but don't know for sure, that your child has ingested a potentially hazardous product**. Call your Poison Control Center, emergency department, or physician. Place these telephone numbers on your phone.

7. **Q. Why do we need child-resistant packaging?**

   A. Although labeling requirements and educational programs have had some effect in reducing the number of childhood ingestions, significant numbers of children are still being poisoned by accidentally ingesting household products that can be hazardous, such as medicines (sometimes brought into the child's home by grandparents), cleaning products, and solvents. Child-resistant packaging, if used properly, provides an additional barrier to help prevent accidental ingestions.

8. **Q. As a parent, how certain can I be regarding the effectiveness of this kind of packaging?**

   A. While child-resistant packaging provides an increased element of protection, children are going to investigate several different ways of opening a container. If their fingers won't work, their teeth might. It would be impossible to manufacture a package or a closure that would prevent every single child from getting into the contents under all possible circumstances. Therefore, the Poison Prevention Packaging Act requires that packages be difficult for children under five years of age to open and obtain a toxic amount within a reasonable time. For example, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission regulations require that aspirin, and other products, be packaged in special containers which would prevent at least 80% of those children tested from opening the container during a 10-minute test. This requirement means that some children would still be able to open or otherwise obtain a toxic amount. So, keep poisonous substances locked up.

9. **Q. How can I use child-resistant packaging properly?**

   A. Remember these steps: (1) Read the instructions to make it easier to open the packaging. (2) Be sure to resecure the closure tightly. **Never transfer the contents to other containers.** (3) Do not leave loose pills on the table or kitchen counter. (4) Keep medicines and household products (even those with safety caps) out of sight. Use locks or child-resistant latches to secure storage areas. The pharmacist or merchant from whom the product was purchased can teach you how to open and close the packaging, if you have difficulty. Opening and closing becomes easier with practice. While it may take a few additional seconds of your time, those few seconds may save the life of a child who is very dear to you.

10. **Q. What kind of products can I expect to find in child-resistant packaging?**

    A. Aspirin and aspirin-substitutes (acetaminophen), certain types of liquid furniture polish, oil of wintergreen, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, lighter fluids, turpentine, paint solvents, windshield washer solutions, automobile antifreeze, pesticides, oral dosage prescription drugs, iron-containing drugs and dietary supplements, over-the-counter ibuprofen, and loperamide (an anti-diarrhea medicine) are among the substances required to be in child-resistant packaging. The CPSC proposed child-resistant packaging for over-the-counter preparations containing lidocaine and dibucaine (anesthetic medicines) and is considering a petition that requests child-resistant packaging for mouthwash containing more than five percent alcohol.

11. **Q. There are no small children in my home. Do I have to use child-resistant packaging?**

    A. In general, all adults should use child-resistant packaging because young children may visit the adult's home. To benefit people who are elderly or handicapped, the Poison Prevention Packaging Act allows a manufacturer to offer a regulated non-prescription product in one size or package that doesn't comply with the safety packaging standard and that bears the label statement "This package for households without young children," if that manufacturer also offers the same product in child-resistant packages. Additionally, if a prescription is involved, the purchaser or prescribing physician can request regular, non-child-resistant packaging. However, such requests should be kept to a minimum, since they increase the danger of childhood poisonings. *Accidents have happened when youngsters have visited homes where no children live.* Little ones have been poisoned after finding medicine containers left in purses or on bedside tables. *And accidents have happened when older persons carried medicines into homes that have small children.* A study conducted for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission by the American Association of Poison Control Centers found that 23% of the oral prescription drugs that were ingested by children under 5 belonged to someone who did not live with the child. Overall, 17% of the drugs ingested belonged to a grandparent or great-grandparent. This percentage varied from city to city: in Salt Lake City, 9% of the drugs ingested belonged to a grandparent, but in Shreveport, Louisiana, 24% of the drugs ingested belonged to a grandparent. The data suggest that grandparents—and all adults—need to use child-resistant packaging and keep medicines properly secured, away from young children.

12. **Q. Is there any evidence that the number of child poisonings has decreased since child-resistant packaging began to be used?**

    A. Yes.

    The staff of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that child-resistant packaging for aspirin and oral prescription medicine saved the lives of about 700 children since the requirements went into effect in the early 1970's.

    CPSC analyzed child fatality data for accidential ingestions of aspirin and oral prescription medicines. The death rates for aspirin and oral prescription medicines declined even after taking account of the overall decline in the accidental child death rate from all causes. The study also accounted for changes in per capita product consumption and reductions in the aspirin fatality rate associated with therapeutic overdose.

    The CPSC study showed that child-resistant packaging reduced the aspirin-related child death rate by up to 0.88 deaths per million children under age five. The results also showed that special packaging reduced the oral prescription medicine-related death rate by up to 1.27 deaths per million

children under age five. This represents a fatality rate reduction of up to 45 percent from levels that would have been projected in the absence of child-resistant packaging requirements.

The estimate of about 700 lives saved relates to aspirin and oral prescription medicines only and does not include additional lives that may have been saved by child-resistant packaging on other products.

There has been a reduction in deaths with all household chemicals and with aspirin products in particular since 1972 (when aspirin was first required to be in child-resistant packaging).

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5 INVOLVING HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

Deaths due to all medicines and household chemicals			Deaths due to aspirin products		
Year	# Deaths		Year	# Deaths	
1972	216		1972	46	
1973	149		1973	26	
1974	135		1974	24	
1975	114		1975	17	
1976	105		1976	25	
1977	94		1977	11	
1978	81		1978	13	
1979	78		1979	8	
1980	73		1980	12	
1981	55		1981	6	
1982	67		1982	5	
1983	55		1983	7	
1984	64		1984	7	
1985	56		1985	0	
1986	59		1986	2	
1987	31		1987	3	
1988	42		1988	3	
1989	55	(This represents a decline	1989	2	(This represents a decline
1990	49	of 77% since 1972.)	1990	1	of 98% since 1972.)

Source: National Center for Health Statistics

However, the number of ingestions or exposures to household medicines and chemicals continues to be high. The American Association of Poison Control Centers reports that in 1992 the number of children under the age of 5 exposed to potentially poisonous substances was 1,095,358. According to the AAPCC National Data Collection System, in 1992 there were 29 deaths to children under age 5 who accidently swallowed medicines and household chemicals.

13. Q. Why is it dangerous to use cups or soft-drink bottles to hold paint thinner, turpentine, gasoline, or other household chemicals?

A. Children associate cups, soft-drink bottles, and drinking glasses with food and drink. Fatalities have been reported when lighter fluid intended for outdoor barbecue fires was poured into such containers and subsequently swallowed by children.

14. Q. Are there any good housekeeping rules I can use to prevent poisoning accidents?

A. Yes.

(1) Keep all household chemical products and medicines (especially iron pills and food supplements containing iron) out of sight of youngsters and, preferably, locked up when not in use. Medicines and household chemicals on kitchen counters or bathroom surfaces are very accessible to young children.

(2) When these products are in use, *never* let them out of your sight—even if you must take them along when answering the telephone or the doorbell.

(3) Store all medicines separately from household products, and store all household chemical products away from food.
(4) Keep items in their original containers.
(5) Leave the original labels on all products, and read the label before using.
(6) Always leave the light on when giving or taking medicines.
(7) Avoid taking medicines in front of children, since youngsters tend to imitate grown-ups.
(8) Refer to medicine as "medicine"—not "candy."
(9) Clean out the medicine cabinet periodically, and safely dispose of unneeded medicines when the illness for which they were prescribed is over. Pour contents down drain or toilet, and rinse container before discarding.
(10) Finally, use child-resistant packaging properly—by closing the container securely after use.

15. Q. Is the poinsettia still considered to be extremely toxic?

A. The poinsettia was blamed for a death in 1919; however, recent studies indicate that the plant is not as highly toxic as was thought at that time. It is unlikely that ingestion of a poinsettia would be fatal, although it may cause some gastric irritation and burning in the mouth. Many other plants are toxic also. If any indoor or outdoor plants are ingested, Poison Control Center or medical advice should be sought.

16. Q. Lead in paint is a serious problem if a child should ingest it. What is being done to correct this problem?

A. In the past, paints could—and did—contain much higher levels of lead than they do now. Since 1971, however, the permissible amount of lead in consumer paint products has been reduced through a series of federal laws and regulations. This reduction also applies to paints or coatings on toys or articles intended for use by children. Children can *still*, however, become lead poisoned from ingesting chips or breathing dust from old, heavily-leaded paint that is still present on walls and other surfaces in old houses and buildings. Workers and entire families face the same hazard when older homes and buildings are rehabilitated and sanding raises dust as leaded paint is removed from surfaces such as walls, floors, and ceilings.

17. Q. Can miniature "button" batteries present a risk of childhood poisoning?

A. Yes, miniature batteries may cause poisoning if accidentally swallowed. The batteries can cause internal burns if they become lodged in the esophagus or intestinal tract. These tiny batteries (used in watches, calculators, cameras, and hearing aids) usually pass through the person without any problem. However, if a miniature battery is swallowed, you should contact your poison center, your physician, or the National Button Battery Ingestion hotline at 202-625-3333. In order to prevent ingestion of miniature batteries, consumers should keep the batteries out of children's reach and throw away old batteries, securely wrapped, after they have been removed from the appliance.

18. Q. Are adults also at risk when they swallow medicines and household chemicals?

A. Yes, poisonings happen to adults—especially older people—who cannot read labels or who fail to follow instructions. Some people may confuse one medicine for another, especially if the light is not on when they reach for a medicine at night. Others may take too much of a medicine or may mix medicine with alcohol or other substances. Adults should take precautions to avoid poisonings:
(1) Always read the label and follow instructions when taking medicines. If any questions arise, consult your physician.
(2) Turn on a light at night and put on your glasses when you need to take a medicine.
(3) Never mix medicines and alcohol, and never take more than the prescribed amount of medicine.
(4) Never "borrow" a friend's medicine or take old medicines.
(5) Tell your doctor what other medicines you are taking so you can avoid adverse drug interactions.

19. Q. **What can consumers do to protect themselves and their families from tampering with medicines?**

A. Although most medicines are packaged in tamper-evident packaging, they are not tamper-proof. Each consumer must be alert for the packaging to be protective. Here's how you can help protect yourself and your family:

(1) **Read the label.** Over-the-counter medicines with safety closures tell you on the label what tamper-evident features you should look for on the package.

(2) **Inspect the outer packaging.** Look before you buy!

(3) **Inspect the product itself when you open the package.** Look again before you take it! If it looks suspicious, be suspicious.

(4) Look for tablets or capsules that are **different in any way** from others in the package.

(5) Don't use any medicine from a package that shows **cuts, slices, tears,** or other imperfections.

(6) **Never** take medicine in the dark.

(7) Read the label and look at the medicine **every time** you take a dose.

(8) Whenever you suspect something wrong with a medicine or its packaging, take it to the store manager.

(9) Tamper-evident packaging can help protect you **if you are alert!**

20. Q. **What can consumers do to protect children from pesticide-related poisonings?**

A. A recent survey by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding pesticide use in and around the home revealed that almost half (47%) of all households with children under the age of five had at least one pesticide stored in an unlocked cabinet, and less than 4 feet off the ground (i.e., within reach of children). The survey also found that 75% of households without children under the age of five also stored at least one pesticide within reach of children. This number is especially significant because 13% of all pesticide poisonings occur in homes other than the child's home. Adults should take the following steps to safeguard children from accidental exposures to pesticides:

(1) Always store pesticides away from children's reach, in a locked cabinet or garden shed.

(2) Read the label first and follow the directions to the letter, including all precautions and restrictions.

(3) Before applying pesticides (indoors and outdoors), remove children and their toys from the area and keep them away until it is dry or as recommended by the label.

(4) Never leave pesticides unattended when you are using them — not even for a few minutes.

(5) Never transfer pesticides to other containers — children may associate certain containers with food or drink.

(6) Use child-resistant packaging properly by closing the container tightly after use.

(7) Alert others to the potential hazard, especially grandparents and caregivers.

21. Q. **Where can I get more information on preventing poisonings?**

A. See the "List of Materials — 1994" for available resources and their sources of supply. The list can be obtained from Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, D.C. 20013.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1993 O - 355-102

SUGGESTED PROCLAMATION FOR GOVERNORS IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK 1994

A Proclamation

Whereas, all citizens should be made aware of the ever-present dangers posed by potentially poisonous household substances;

Whereas, our youngsters too often have access to commonly-used drugs and medicines and to such potentially toxic household products as polishes, cleaners, lighter fluids, anti-freeze, and paint solvents;

Whereas, the informational and educational achievements of many of our State's official and voluntary organizations have been instrumental in awakening individuals to the need for poison prevention, including the proper use of child protection packaging;

And Whereas, latest nationally-released figures show continued declines in the accidental ingestion among children of household products. In our State alone, we have seen a decline of _____ per cent in such ingestions as reported by poison centers. Equally remarkable has been the decline in fatalities associated with accidental poisoning among youngsters. Although our efforts have substantially reduced the incidence of childhood poisonings, it is clear that as long as one child is accidentally poisoned, our efforts must continue.

Now, Therefore, I, _____, Governor of the State (Commonwealth) of _____ do hereby proclaim March 20-26, 1994 as Poison Prevention Week in this State (Commonwealth). Further, I call on all those official and voluntary organizations that have done so much, up to this point, to continue their efforts until we can point to the elimination of poisoning as a significant health hazard to our children.

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
POISON LOOKOUT CHECKLIST

The home areas listed below are the most common sites of accidental poisonings. Follow this checklist to learn how to correct situations that may lead to poisonings. If you answer "No" to any questions, fix the situation quickly. Your goal is to have all your answers "Yes."

THE KITCHEN

	Yes	No
1. Do all harmful products in the cabinets have child-resistant caps? Products like furniture polishes, drain cleaners and some oven cleaners should have safety packaging to keep little children from accidentally opening the packages.	☐	☐
2. Are all potentially harmful products in their original containers? There are two dangers if products aren't stored in their original containers. Labels on the original containers often give first aid information if someone should swallow the product. And if products are stored in containers like drinking glasses or pop bottles, someone may think it is food and swallow it.	☐	☐
3. Are harmful products stored away from food? If harmful products are placed next to food, someone may accidentally get a food and a poison mixed up and swallow the poison.	☐	☐
4. Have all potentially harmful products been put up high and out of reach of children? The best way to prevent poisoning is making sure that it's impossible to find and get at the poisons. Locking all cabinets that hold dangerous products is the best poison prevention.	☐	☐

THE BATHROOM

	Yes	No
1. Did you ever stop to think that medicines could poison if used improperly? Many children are poisoned each year by overdoses of aspirin. If aspirin can poison, just think of how many other poisons might be in your medicine cabinet.	☐	☐
2. Do your aspirins and other potentially harmful products have child-resistant closures? Aspirins and most prescription drugs come with child-resistant caps. Check to see yours have them, and that they are properly secured. Check your prescriptions before leaving the pharmacy to make sure the medicines are in child-resistant packaging. These caps have been shown to save the lives of children.	☐	☐
3. Have you thrown out all out-of-date prescriptions? As medicines get older, the chemicals inside them can change. So what was once a good medicine may now be a dangerous poison. Flush all old drugs down the toilet. Rinse the container well, then discard it.	☐	☐
4. Are all medicines in their original containers with the original labels? Prescription medicines may or may not list ingredients. The prescription number on the label will, however, allow rapid identification by the pharmacist of the ingredients should they not be listed. Without the original label and container, you can't be sure of what you're taking. After all, aspirin looks a lot like poisonous roach tablets.	☐	☐
5. If your vitamins or vitamin/mineral supplements contain iron, are they in child-resistant packaging? Most people think of vitamins and minerals as foods and, therefore, nontoxic, but a few iron pills can kill a child.	☐	☐

THE GARAGE OR STORAGE AREA

	Yes	No
1. Did you know that many things in your garage or storage area that can be swallowed are terrible poisons? Death may occur when people swallow such everyday substances as charcoal lighter, paint thinner and remover, antifreeze and turpentine.	☐	☐
2. Do all these poisons have child-resistant caps?	☐	☐
3. Are they stored in the original containers?	☐	☐
4. Are the original labels on the containers?	☐	☐
5. Have you made sure that no poisons are stored in drinking glasses or pop bottles?	☐	☐
6. Are all these harmful products locked up and out of sight and reach?	☐	☐

When all your answers are "Yes," then continue this level of poison protection by making sure that, whenever you buy potentially harmful products, they have child-resistant closures and are kept out of sight and reach. Post the number of the Poison Control Center near your telephone.

For further information, write:

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Washington, D.C. 20207

To report a product hazard or a product-related injury, write to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207, or call the toll-free hotline: 800-638-CPSC. A tele-typewriter for the deaf is available on the following numbers: National 800-638-8270, Maryland only 800-492-8104.

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Consumer Product SAFETY ALERT

FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

Prevent Poisoning and Death from Iron-Containing Medicine

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) warns that iron medications (sometimes identified as ferrous sulfate, ferrous gluconate, or ferrous fumarate) can be deadly to a young child. Many adults may not realize the hazard of iron preparations. The Commission recommends that parents keep medicine with iron out of the reach of young children.

Iron is available in combination with vitamins or alone. According to poison control center data, iron supplements are responsible for 30 percent of pediatric poisoning deaths from medications. A small number of iron pills consumed by a child can cause death. Poisonings happen when children swallow their parents' iron pills. CPSC recommends that obstetricians and gynecologists tell their maternity patients that prenatal medicine with iron is poisonous to children.

CPSC requires that iron-containing medicines and vitamins with iron be packaged in child-resistant closures. Parents should always properly re-secure safety closures. In addition, parents should keep medicines with iron out of the reach of children and should properly discard iron pills after use so children cannot reach them. Medicines should be discarded by flushing down the toilet, not in a wastebasket where children can find them.

Always use child-resistant closures and keep iron-containing medicine out of the reach of children.

009302

AVISO AL CONSUMIDOR SOBRE LA SEGURIDAD DE PRODUCTOS
Comisión Para Seguridad de Productos de EE.UU.

PREVENGA ENVENENARSE O LA MUERTE EVITANDO MEDICAMENTOS A BASE DE HIERRO

La Comisión para Seguridad de Productos del Consumidor (CPSC) avisa que los medicamentos a base de hierro (a veces identificados como sulfato ferroso, gluconate ferroso, ó fumarate ferroso), pueden ser fatales para los niños. Muchos adultos no se dan cuenta del peligro en los preparativos con hierro. La Comisión recomienda que los padres mantengan las medicinas con hierro fuera del alcance de los niños.

El hierro puede encontrarse en combinación con vitaminas o solo. De acuerdo con los datos del Centro para Çontrol de Veneno, los medicamentos a base de hierro usados como suplementos, son los causantes del 30% de las muertes por envenenamiento de los niños. Solo con ingerir una pequeña cantidad de píldoras con hierro pueden causar la muerte a un niño. Cuando los niños ingieren las píldoras de hierro de sus padres pueden envenenarse. La Comisión recomienda que los obstétricos y genecólogos adviertan a sus pacientes que las medicinas a base de hierro son peligrosas para los niños.

La Comisión para Seguridad de Productos del Consumidor (CPSC) requiere que los medicamentos a base de hierro, así como las vitaminas con hierro, sean envasadas con tapas a prueba de niños. También los padres deben asegurarse que las tapas están seguras, así como mantener las medicinas con hierro fuera del alcance de los niños y desechar adecuadamente de aquellas que no necesiten para así evitar que los niños las alcancen. Estas medicinas deben desecharse por el inodoro y nó en zafacones donde los niños puedan encontrarlas.

Use siempre tapas a prueba de niños y mantenga las medicinas conteniendo hierro fuera del alcance de los mismos.

009302

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Prevention, Pesticides
And Toxic Substances
(H7506C)

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EPA FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pesticides and Child Safety

Although pesticides can be beneficial to society, they can be dangerous if used carelessly or if they are not stored properly and out of the reach of children. According to data collected from the American Association of Poison Control Centers, in 1992 alone, an estimated 148,000 children were involved in common household pesticide-related poisonings or exposures in the United States.

A recent survey by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding pesticides used in and around the home revealed some significant findings:

- Almost half -- 47% -- of all households with children under the age of five had at least one pesticide stored in an unlocked cabinet, less than 4 feet off the ground (i.e., within the reach of children).

- Approximately 75% of households without children under the age of five also stored pesticides in an unlocked cabinet, less than 4 feet off the ground (i.e., within the reach of children). This number is especially significant because 13% of all pesticide poisoning incidents occur in homes other than the child's home.

Bathrooms and kitchens were cited as the areas in the home most likely to have improperly stored pesticides. Examples of some common household pesticides found in bathrooms and kitchens include roach sprays; chlorine bleach; kitchen and bath disinfectants; rat poison; insect and wasp sprays, repellents and baits; and, flea and tick shampoos and dips for pets. Other household pesticides include swimming pool chemicals and weed killers.

EPA has important regulatory authority over pesticides in the United States under the pesticide law (the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act). Since 1981, the law has required most residential-use pesticides with a signal word of "danger" or "warning" to be in child-resistant packaging. These are the pesticides which are most toxic to children. Child-resistant packaging is designed to prevent most children under the age of five from gaining access to the pesticide, or at least delay their access. However, individuals must also take precautions to protect children from accidental pesticide poisonings or exposures.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTING ACCIDENTAL POISONING:

- Always store pesticides away from children's reach, in a locked cabinet or garden shed. Child-proof safety latches may also be installed on cabinets and can be purchased at your local hardware store;

- Read the label first and follow the directions to the letter, including all precautions and restrictions;

- Before applying pesticides (indoors or outdoors), remove children and their toys as well as pets from the area and keep them away until the pesticide has dried or as long as is recommended by the label;

- If your use of a pesticide is interrupted (perhaps by a phone call), be sure to leave the container out of the reach of children while you are gone;

- Never transfer pesticides to other containers that children may associate with food or drink;

- Never place rodent or insect baits where small children can get to them;

- Use child-resistant packaging properly by closing the container tightly after use;

- Alert others to the potential hazard of pesticides, especially caregivers and grandparents;

- Teach children that "pesticides are poisons" -- something they should not touch.

- Keep the telephone number of your area Poison Control Center near your telephone.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, try to determine what the child was exposed to and what part of the body was affected before you take action, since taking the right action is as important as taking immediate action. The pesticide product label provides you with a "Statement of Treatment" to follow in emergencies. Administer the indicated initial first aid; then contact your local Poison Control Center, physician, local emergency number (911 in most areas), or the operator. The following require immediate attention before calling for assistance - remember, act fast because speed is crucial:

- **Poison in eye.** Eye membranes absorb pesticides faster than any other external part of the body; eye damage can occur in a few minutes with some types of pesticides. If poison splashes into an eye, hold the eyelid open and wash quickly and gently with clean running water from the tap or a gentle stream from a hose for at least 15 minutes. If possible, have someone else contact a Poison Control Center for you while victim is being treated. Do not use eye drops or chemicals or drugs in the wash water.

- **Poison on skin.** If pesticide splashes on the skin, drench area with water and remove contaminated clothing. Wash skin and hair thoroughly with soap and water. Later, discard contaminated clothing or thoroughly wash it separately from other laundry.

- **Inhaled poison.** Carry or drag victim to fresh air immediately. (If proper protection is unavailable to you, call for emergency equipment from the Fire Department.) Loosen victim's tight clothing. If the victim's skin is blue or the victim has stopped breathing, give artificial respiration and call rescue service for help. Open doors and windows so no one else will be poisoned by fumes.

- **Swallowed poison.** Induce vomiting **ONLY if the emergency personnel on the phone tell you to do so**. It will depend on what the child has swallowed; some petroleum products or caustic poisons will cause more damage if the child is made to vomit. Always keep Syrup of Ipecac on hand (1 ounce for each child in the household) to use to induce vomiting if recommended by the emergency personnel. Be sure the date is current.

Additional pesticide product information can be obtained from the **National Pesticide Telecommunications Network** (NPTN) at **1-800-858-7378.** NPTN is a toll-free **information service** operated Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

National Institute on Aging

Age Page

Safe Use of Medicines by Older People

Drugs can be wonderful tools for the care of patients of all ages. In fact, the growth of our population over the age of 65 can be attributed at least in part to the availability of effective medicines and vaccines. But in older adults drug use may have greater risks, especially when several drugs are taken at one time.

People over 65 make up 13 percent of the American population, yet they take 30 percent of all prescription drugs sold in this country. As a group, older people tend to have more long-term illnesses—such as arthritis, diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart disease—than younger people. And because they often have a number of diseases or disabilities at the same time, it is very common for them to be taking many different drugs.

In general, drugs taken by older people act differently from the way they do in young or middle-aged people. This is probably the result of the normal changes in body makeup that occur with age. For example, as the body grows older, the percent of water and lean tissue (mainly muscle) decreases, while the percent of fat tissue increases. These changes can affect the time a drug stays in the body and the amount absorbed by body tissues.

The kidneys and the liver are two important organs responsible for breaking down and removing most drugs from the body. With age, these organs begin to function less efficiently, and thus drugs leave the body more slowly. This may account for the fact that older people tend to have more undesirable reactions to drugs than do younger people.

It is important to remember that "drugs" include not only prescription medicines (those ordered by a doctor and dispensed by a pharmacist) but over-the-counter (OTC) medicines as well (those bought and used without a prescription). Drugs prescribed by a doctor are usually more powerful and have more side effects than OTC medicines. Yet many OTC drugs contain strong agents, and when large quantities are taken, they can equal a dose that would normally only be available by prescription.

Some substances, including vitamins, laxatives, cold remedies, antacids, and alcohol, can also lead to serious problems if used too often or in combination with certain other drugs.

There is much that you and your family can do to reduce the risks of drug use. By learning about the drugs you take and their possible side effects, you can help bring about safer and faster treatment results. Some basic rules for safe drug use are as follows:

- Take exactly the amount of drug prescribed by your doctor and follow the dosage schedule as closely as possible. If

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

you have trouble or questions, call your doctor or pharmacist.

- Medicines will not produce the same effects in all people. Never take drugs prescribed for a friend or relative, even though your symptoms may be the same.
- Always tell your doctor about past problems you have had with drugs (such as rashes, indigestion, dizziness, or lack of appetite). When your doctor prescribes a new drug, be sure to mention *all* other medicines you are currently taking—including those prescribed by another doctor and those you buy without a prescription.
- Keep a daily record of the drugs you are taking, especially if your treatment schedule is complicated or you are taking more than one drug at a time. The record should show the name of the drug, the doctor who prescribed it, the amount you take, and the times of day for taking it. Include a space to check off each dose as you take it. Keep a copy in your medicine cabinet and one in your wallet or pocketbook.
- If child-proof containers are hard for you to handle, ask your pharmacist for easy-to-open containers. Always be sure, however, that they are out of the reach of children.
- Make sure you understand the directions printed on the drug container and that the name of the medicine is clearly printed on the label. Ask your pharmacist to use large type on the label if you find the regular labels hard to read.
- Discard old medicines; many drugs lose their effectiveness over time.
- When you start taking a new drug, ask your doctor or pharmacist about side effects that may occur, about special rules for storage, and about foods or beverages to avoid. Pharmacists are drug specialists and are able to answer most questions about drug use.
- Always call your doctor promptly if you notice unusual reactions.
- New information about drugs and how they affect the older user is coming to light daily. You should occasionally review with your doctor the need for each medicine.

Remember that a chemical agent strong enough to cure an ailment is also strong enough to cause harm if it's not used wisely. Although you should never stop taking medicines without medical advice, if you feel any drug is doing more harm than good, don't be afraid to discuss the matter with your doctor. He or she may be able to substitute another medicine that will be effective.

Other Resources

For more information on the safe use of medicines, contact the Elder Health Program, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, 20 North Pine Street, Baltimore, MD 21201; and the Food and Drug Administration, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Consumer and Professional Affairs (HFD-365), 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

To learn more about health and aging, write to the National Institute on Aging Information Center, P.O. Box 8057, Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8057. The NIA distributes free *Age Pages* on a number of topics.

1991

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Public Health Service National Institutes of Health

To reduce the risk of poisoning:

1. Keep household products and medicines out of reach and out of sight of children, preferably in a locked cabinet or closet. Even if you must leave the room for only an instant, put the container in a safe spot.

2. Store medicines and dietary supplements (especially iron pills) separately from other household products and keep these items in their original containers — never in cups or soft-drink bottles.

3. Be sure that all products are properly labelled, and read the label before using.

4. Always turn the light on when giving or taking medicine to be sure you have the right medicine and the correct measure or count of the dosage.

5. Since children tend to imitate adults — avoid taking medications in their presence. Avoid drinking medicine from the bottle.

6. Refer to medicines by their proper names. They are not candies.

7. Clean out your medicine cabinet periodically. Get rid of old medicines by flushing them down the drain or toilet, rinsing the container in water, and then discarding it.

8. Ask for and use household products which are available in child resistant packaging. Insist on safety packaging for prescription medicines. Resecure safety feature carefully after using. Safety packaging gives extra protection to your children.

If there is a poisoning incident:

Call the Poison Control Center

Telephone .....

OR

Call a Doctor

Name .....

Telephone .....

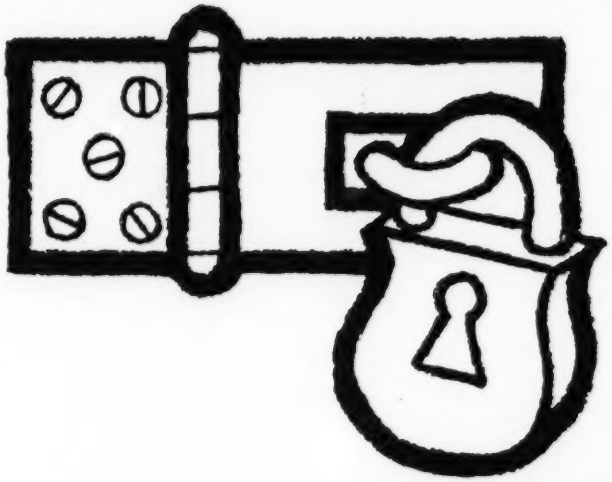
OR

Call a Hospital

Telephone .....

LOCKED UP POISONS

PROTECT YOUR CHILD AGAINST ACCIDENTAL POISONING



PREVENT TRAGEDY

Revised 1993

Prepared by
the Poison Prevention
Week Council/Consumer
Product Safety Commission

YOUNG CHILDREN WILL EAT AND DRINK ALMOST ANYTHING!

Keep all liquids and solids that may be poisonous out of their reach. Use child-resistant packaging to help prevent poisonings with medicines and household chemicals. Each year poison control centers report nearly one million children under the age of five are exposed to potentially poisonous medicines and household chemicals.

Medicines (especially iron pills and food supplements containing iron), household substances, insect sprays, kerosene, lighter fluid, some furniture polishes, turpentine, paints, solvents, and products containing lye and acids are most frequently the cause of accidental poisoning among children.

ALWAYS RETURN TO SAFE STORAGE IMMEDIATELY (locked up – away from children)

Never leave a bottle of aspirin or other pills where children can reach it. Return it to a safe place immediately after using.

MEDICINES...

... are often swallowed by young children who find medicines where their grandparents have left them. Grandparents — and all adults — should use child-resistant closures whenever young children are around. Keep medicines out of reach — and out of sight — of all children.

HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

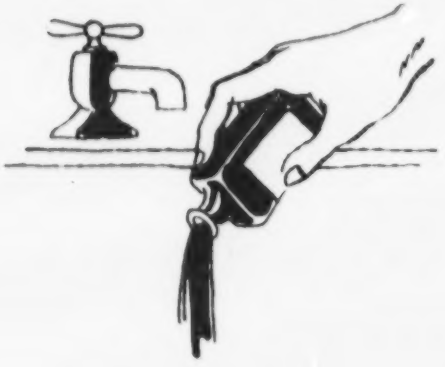
Read labels before using any household product and follow the directions carefully. Store these products so that children cannot reach them.

Always resecure child-resistant packaging.

KEEP ALL PRODUCTS IN ORIGINAL CONTAINERS

Never place kerosene, anti-freeze, paints, or solvents in cups, glasses, milk or soft-drink bottles, or other utensils customarily used for food or drinks.

Never transfer products to a bottle without a child-resistant closure.



DESTROY OLD MEDICATIONS

Pour contents down drain or toilet, and rinse container before discarding. Do not put container with its contents into trash.

KEEP FOODS AND HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS SEPARATED

Cleaning fluids, detergents, lye, soap powders, insecticides, and other everyday household products should be stored away from food and medications. Death could be the result of a mistaken identity.

NEVER CALL MEDICINE "CANDY"

Children should not be deceived by having flavored medicines called "candy." When left alone, they may locate the bottle and eat or drink its contents.

GROWING CHILDREN ARE CURIOUS ABOUT ...

... things that glitter ... pretty colored pills ... bottles and containers of all kinds. These arouse their natural curiosity. If a child is in the crawling stage, arrange to keep household products in places other than below the kitchen sink unless the cabinet is locked or secured with child safety latches.

If the child is walking, be certain that bottles and boxes containing medicines or household products are put away before answering the telephone or doorbell.

If he is able to climb, find a shelf that is completely beyond his ability to reach, or, better yet, lock these products in a cabinet or closet.

After using a product, always re-secure the child-resistant closure.

*U.S. Government Printing Office: 1993 — 341-810/80655

11. **Why You Should Open Your Eyes Before You Open Your Mouth; Medicine Works Best When You Read the Label First**
(A 4×9 inch card (fits in a No. 10-sized envelope) explains on one side how consumers can protect themselves against tampering. The other side outlines the importance of reading labels on nonprescription, over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, listing the kind of information that is typically provided on OTC labels.)

Write the Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association, Public Affairs Department, 1150 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. (Single copies or bulk.)

12. **The Poison Safety Game**
(A game for older elementary school children to help them protect their younger siblings from poisonings.)

Available free in single copies or bulk quantities up to 100 copies. Food and Drug Administration, HFI-40, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

13. **Plants That Poison**
(An illustrated chart of common poisonous plants indicating size, toxic parts and symptoms of poisoning. Contains information on preventing plant poisoning and emergency measures.)

Single copy free. **Must** send self addressed, stamped business envelope to: Bronson Hospital Poison Prevention, 252 E. Lovell (Attn: Nancy), Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

14. **Safe Use of Aerosols Around the House**
(Instructs the reader on proper use and storage of these products. Shows how an aerosol product works and helps families understand directions and cautions on the label.)

Single copy free with self-addressed stamped envelope, 25 cents each additional copy. Written requests only. Orders under $100.00 must be prepaid. Aerosol Education Bureau, 1913 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

15. **"Is Your Home. . . . . POISON SAFE?!"**
(An 8½" × 11" three fold brochure with an animated teddy bear explaining why, what and when poisonings occur. Provides safety tips to prevent poisonings. Available in English and Spanish.)

Sample copy of English and Spanish is available. Order form will be included upon request with price list. San Bernardino County Department of Public Health Child and Adolescent Health Program, 351 N. Mt. View, Room 305, San Bernardino, CA 92415–0010.

16. **"Stop Lead Poisoning" Brochure**
(Featuring Big Bird character, this brochure serves as a parental guide to causes, prevention and remedies of lead poisoning.)
Product Number 49002-0000 (English)
Product Number 49003-0000 (Spanish)

Prices, 1–99, $.45; 100–499, $.40. National Safety Council, 1121 Spring Lake Drive, Itasca, IL 60143-3201. (Payment must accompany all orders under $25 plus shipping and handling.)

17. **What You Should Know About Lead-Based Paint In Your Home**
(A 4-page safety alert about the dangers of lead-based paint, how you can test the paint in your home for lead, and ways to reduce your exposure. Prepared by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.)

Single copy free. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207.

18. **What You Need to Know About the Safety of Art & Craft Materials**
(A twelve-page booklet that answers commonly-asked questions about the safe use of art materials.)

Single copies free: quantities upon request. The Art and Craft Materials Institute, Inc., 100 Boylston Street, Suite 1050, Boston, Massachusetts 02116.

19. **Injury Prevention Program Safety Slips—TIPP**
(There are 8 age-related sheets with safety information on poisons, burns, falls, and other hazards.) (Also available in Spanish.)

$60 for 100 copies of each set plus $6.25 shipping and handling charge. American Academy of Pediatrics, Publications Department, P.O. Box 927, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009. Prepaid orders only.

20. **Injury Prevention Program Safety Surveys—TIPP**
(There are 5 questionnaires, in checklist format concerning poisons, burns, falls, and other hazards.) (Also available in Spanish.)

$37.50 for 100 copies of each set plus $6.25 shipping and handling charge. American Academy of Pediatrics, Publications Department, P.O. Box 927, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009. Prepaid orders only.

21. **First Aid for Poisoning Chart**
(An 11" × 17" chart with first aid instructions for poisoning and for several other types of injury.)

Single copies $2.95, $55 for 100 copies plus $8.25 shipping and handling charge. American Academy of Pediatrics, Publications Department, P.O. Box 927, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009. Prepaid orders only.

22. **Fighting Back: Helping Young People Kick the Sniffing Habit**
(12-page illustrated booklet. Discusses the nature of inhalation abuse, identifies substances typically misused by adolescents, and gives practical guidelines for adults on how to deal with the problem before seeking outside help.)

Single copy free with self-addressed stamped #10 envelope. For bulk quantities, request in writing for bulk price information. Orders under $100.00 must be pre-paid. Write to: Aerosol Education Bureau, 1913 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

23. **En Pie de Lucha: Ayudando a Los Jovenas a Combatir el Habito de Aspirar Substancias Nocivas**
Spanish version of "Fighting Back: Helping Young People Kick the Sniffing Habit" (see separate listing under "Fighting Back" for order information).

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ZIP CODE WHEN ORDERING MATERIALS

NATIONAL

POISON PREVENTION WEEK

March 20–26, 1994

LIST OF MATERIALS—1994

BROCHURES, FLYERS AND PAMPHLETS

1. **Tips on Child Safety**
   (Contains facts on proper use and life-saving effectiveness of safety caps, advice on how to instill safety consciousness in preschoolers, and general home safety tips.)

   Produced by Closure Manufacturers Association. Send stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope to Safety Tips, CMA, 1627 K St. N.W. (Suite 800), Washington, D.C. 20006.

2. **Your Child and Household Safety**
   (A monograph by Jay M. Arena, M.D. Discusses continuing need to protect children from potentially harmful substances and circumstances.)

   $1.00 each. Special rate is available with name imprinted on orders of 1,000 or more upon request. Orders under $100.00 must be pre-paid. Published and distributed by Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association, Inc., 1913 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

3. **Home Safe Home**
   (Tips for parents on how to protect young children in the home environment. Spanish versions available.)

   Up to 100 copies free. Ask for information on larger orders. The Soap and Detergent Association, 475 Park Avenue South at 32nd Street, New York, NY 10016.

4. **Ten Guides to Proper Medicine Use**
   (A brochure describing steps for consumers to follow when buying and taking prescription and nonprescription medicines.)

   Up to 100 copies free. Ask for information on larger orders. Council on Family Health, 225 Park Avenue South, Suite 1700, New York, NY 10003.

5. **Preventing Accidental Poisonings (15217-0000)**
   (A 16-page booklet discussing potentially harmful products in the home, tips on how to prevent poisoning as well as what to do in the event of an accidental poisoning. Includes a tear-off quick response chart to keep near the phone.)

   Prices, each: 1–49, $.85; 50–99, $.90; 100–499, $.65; 500–999, $.60; 1,000+, $.55. National Safety Council, 1121 Spring Lake Drive, Itasca, IL 60143-3201. (Payment must accompany all orders under $25 plus shipping and handling.)

6. **Babysitter's Checklist**
   (Lists first aid information about injuries and accidents resulting in poisoning, burns or bleeding. The laminated, reusable wall chart (11" ×14") also has space to list emergency phone numbers and special instructions regarding a child's health.)

   Single copies of the Checklist are available for $1 to cover mailing costs from the Council on Family Health, 225 Park Avenue South, Suite 1700, New York, NY 10003.

7. **Clean and Safe**
   (A four-page guide to safe use and storage of household cleaning products that explains the information given on package labels, procedures for safe storage and use of cleaning products, and what to do in case of emergency involving accidental exposure.)

   Up to 30 copies free. Ask for information on larger orders. The Soap and Detergent Association, 475 Park Avenue South at 32nd Street, New York, NY 10016.

8. **Medicines and You: A Guide for Older Americans**
   (12-page brochure to help older adults prevent adverse reactions from medicine interactions. Includes a sample medicine chart. Also available, a 52-page bilingual workbook in English and Spanish, ideal for workshops and seminars. In addition, there is a 6½-minute videotape in Spanish with English subtitles.)

   One copy free. Ask for information on larger orders. Council on Family Health, 225 Park Avenue South, Suite 1700, New York, NY 10003.

9. **First Aid Guide (OP-015/7)**
   (A guide for first aid in the home. 67 pages, 4" ×7".)

   Packages of 10 copies: 14, $8.50; 59, $8.50; 1024, $8.50; 2549, $7.65; 5074, $7.20. American Medical Association, Order Dept., P.O. Box 10946, Chicago, IL 60610. (Payment must accompany all orders.)

10. **Solid and Liquid Poisons in the Home (42904-0021)**
    (A 4-page safety bulletin containing practical information on poisons in and around the home, pointing out special dangers to children.)

    Prices, each 10–99, $1.90; 100–999, $1.60. National Safety Council, 1121 Spring Lake Drive, Itasca, IL 60143-3201. (Payment must accompany all orders under $25 plus shipping and handling.)

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24. Child Safety Slips

Each of the sixteen Child Safety Slips provides guidelines for the prevention of injury hazards. These handouts for parents highlight some of the frequent causes of childhood accidents.

Topics are:
Infant Furniture: Cribs
Baby Sitting Reminders
Protect Your Child. . . Prevent Poisoning
Safe Driving. . . A Parental Responsibility
Protect Your Home Against Fire. . . Planning Saves Lives
Water Safety for Your School-Aged Child
Lawn Mower Safety
Home Water Hazards for Infants and Toddlers
Pool Safety for Toddlers
Life Jackets and Life Preservers
About Bicycle Helmets
Bicycle Safety: Myths and Facts
Tips for Getting Your Kids to Wear Helmets
Choosing the Right Size Bicycle for Your Child
Safe Bicycling Starts Early
The Child as Passenger on an Adult's Bicycle

Each Topic is available in sets of 100 for $7.50 plus $4.25 shipping and handling charge.

American Academy of Pediatrics
Publications Department
P.O. Box 927
Elk Grove Village, IL 60009 Prepaid orders only.

25. Sniffing Abuse: It Can Kill

(Booklet, 8½" × 11", 12 pages, two-color. Speaks to young people about the hard facts of inhalant abuse. Explains that sniffing is a drug problem; discusses the right and wrong use of breathing and inhaling; includes news bulletins of sniffing incidents and deaths; shows a diagram of body organs damaged by sniffing; describes how a youngster might be deprived of the joys of normal living.)

Single copy free. Request in writing for price information on bulk quantities. Orders under $100.00 must be prepaid. Aerosol Education Bureau, 1913 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

26. Pesticides and Child Safety

(Contains tips on safeguarding children from accidental pesticide poisonings or exposures and important contact phone numbers on who to call if an accident occurs. Also available in Spanish.)

Free copies available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs, Field Operations Division, Communications Branch (H7506C), 401 M Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460.

27. Using Insect Repellents Safely

(Contains precautions for using insect repellents and tips on what to do if you suspect a child is reacting to an insect repellent. Also available in Spanish.)

Free copies available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs, Field Operations Division, Communications Branch (H-7506C), 401 M Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460.

POSTERS

28. Choking Prevention and First Aid for Infants and Children

(Brochure on choking prevention. Folds out to 8½" × 14" poster on first aid technique.)

$27.50 for 100 copies, plus $6.25 shipping and handling charge. American Academy of Pediatrics, Publications Department, P.O. Box 927, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009. Prepaid orders only.

29. National Poison Prevention Week—1994

(An 11" × 17" poster for windows, bulletin boards, etc.)

Quantities can be purchased from Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, D.C. 20013. 25 copies $10.00; 50 copies $18.00; 100 copies $32.00 Post Paid. (Payment MUST accompany orders.)

30. National Safety Council Posters:

Read Labels Before Taking Medication (8025-A)
Take Medicines Only as Prescribed (7641-A)
Cosmetics may be Poisonous. Keep them out of the Reach of Children (7660-A)
Put Pills in their Place (7634-A)

(8½" × 11" color posters emphasizing the importance of keeping children away from medicines and cleaning products.)

Prices: (Minimum order: 10) 10–99, $1.90; 100+, $1.75. National Safety Council, 1121 Spring Lake Drive, Itasca, IL 60143-3201. (Payment must accompany all orders under $25 plus shipping and handling.)

31. Is Your Home Poison Safe?

(19" × 24" multi-colored poster using an animated teddy bear depicting several "do and don't" scenes to prevent poisonings. This poster is appropriate for a population with poor reading skills.)

Prices: $2.00 each, plus postage and handling. No free samples are available. Payment must accompany order. Make check payable to "Child and Adolescent Health Program" and send it to: San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, CAHP, 351 Mt. View, Room 305, San Bernardino, CA 92415–0010.

32. If You Sniff To Get High

(4-color, 27½" × 22" poster featuring The Jets, MCA recording artists, with the message, "If you sniff to get high, you may get brain damage or die.")

Single copy free. For bulk quantities, request in writing for price information. Orders under $100.00 must be pre-paid. Aerosol Education Bureau, 1913 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

FILMS, SLIDES, TALKS, AND MEDIA AIDS

33. Growing Up Safe. . . Baby's First Year
(Sponsored by The Children's Hospital of Alabama)

This home video encourages injury prevention, from the moment an infant leaves the hospital. Five program segments are included in the 51 minute tape:

Birth to Four Months: Lying and Rolling
Five to Seven Months: Crawling and Sitting
Eight to Twelve Months: Standing and Cruising
Emergency First Aid
Poison Plant Guide

VHS, Beta	$29.95 plus $3.00 Shipping
¾" U-matic	$64.95 plus $3.00 Shipping
	25% discount when ordering 3 or more tapes.
Order From:	Illustrated Care, Inc. 529 Beacon Parkway West (Suite 201) Birmingham, AL 35209

Phone: 205/942-7311 or outside Alabama, 1-800-992-1567

34. 250,000 Ways to Destroy a Child's Life Without Leaving Home
(15-minute color, sound film. Relates poisoning hazards in average home to stages of a child's development and gives needed prevention measures. Also shows steps to follow when precautions fail. Informative for those responsible for child-care as well as medical and paramedical personnel. Includes a new film guide to accompany film and a work sheet for teachers.)

Available as a 16mm color sound film ($275) or videocassette ($75.00). Contact Mar/Chuck Film Industries, P.O. Box 61, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056.

35. The Travels of Timothy Trent
(10-minute, 16mm, color, sound film or videocassette. Tells parents and others responsible for the care of your children how safety packaging protects from accidental poisoning. Free discussion materials also available with this film.)

Produced by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Purchase price $105 (16mm film #007913); or $80 for video (#A03690), from the National AudioVisual Center, 8700 Edgeworth Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743–3701.

36. Always Be Careful
(A 10-minute, 16mm, sound, color film on instruction in safety education. Includes emphasis on safety practices at school, at home, and in the community. This film focuses on the ABC's of Safety in the Home and suggests five important safety rules pertaining to home appliances, stoves, bathtubs, and sinks, electric and household cleansers.)

Produced by Lockwood Films, Inc. Available from Mar/Chuck Film Industries. P.O. Box 61, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. 16mm film ($225) or videocassette ($75.00).

37. Preventing Childhood Poisonings.
(5-minute videocassette, color. Shows how to poison-proof your home, how common kitchen agents can fall into the hands of children and how you can respond to emergencies in which children have ingested dangerous substances.)

Produced by the Food and Drug Administration. Purchase price $40 (order #TCA14953), from the National AudioVisual Center, 8700 Edgeworth Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743–3701.

38. Baby Alive Videotape and Book—The Video That Could Save Your Child's Life!
Produced in cooperation with the American Academy of Pediatrics, this 60-minute videotape and book provide vital information to keep your infant or young child safe and secure. Phylicia Rashad of "The Cosby Show" and top medical experts present a step-by-step guide for prevention and treatment of life-threatening situations facing children from birth to 5 years old, including choking, drowning, poisoning, head injuries, and cuts.)

Order the videotape by sending $19.95 each plus $4.25 shipping and handling, or the book by sending $4.95 plus $4.25 shipping and handling to: American Academy of Pediatrics, Publications Department, P.O. Box 927, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009–0927.

39. Child-Resistant Packaging Videos
(Three short segments emphasizing the need to use child-resistant packaging. The first two video segments (each 3:45 in length) are narrated by grandparents. The third (4:15 in length) is a simulated TV news story about a child who swallowed his grandparent's heart medicine.)

To order a ½" VHS videocassette of all three video segments, send a check for $20 to Yellowstone Environmental Science, 320 S. Willson, Bozeman, MT 59715 (406-586-3905).

MISCELLANEOUS

40. National Poison Prevention Week Packet
(Folder containing list of available materials, fact sheet, state and local officials' suggested proclamations, and other promotional materials for the National Poison Prevention Week Observance.)

Order from Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013.

41. Annual Report for NPPW—1993
Single free copies available from the Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013.

42. NPPW List of Materials—1994

A limited number of additional copies of this publication you are now reading is available, free, from the Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013.

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ZIP CODE WHEN ORDERING MATERIALS

43. Presidential Proclamation

Single copies of the President's proclamation will be available after date of issue, Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013.

44. "Locked Up Poisons"

(An 8½" × 11" pamphlet with safety recommendations for poison prevention)

100 copies of this pamphlet are available. You may add your own name and address when you reprint this pamphlet. Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, DC 20013.

45. "Locked Up Poisons" (Spanish)

(This is the Spanish version of the pamphlet mentioned above.)

Single copies free. Secretary, Poison Prevention Week Council, P.O. Box 1543, Washington, D.C. 20013.

46. "A General Approach to the Emergency Management of Poisonings"

(A 17" × 22" poster describing clinical evaluation measures, decontamination and elimination procedures as well as a brief poison/antidote chart. Approved jointly by the American College of Emergency Physicians and the American Association of Poison Control Centers.)

$8.00 per copy. ($5.00 per copy for ACEP members.) Order from ACEP Distribution Center, P.O. Box 619911, Dallas, Texas 75261-9911. (Payment must accompany all orders.)

47. Poison Prevention Information

(Selection of publications varies from state to state.)

Cooperative Extension Service educational resources are available from the Cooperative Extension Service in every county. Information in the form of publications, slides, meeting ideas, visuals and volunteer speakers are usually available. The county Cooperative Extension Service is usually listed under county government in the telephone directory. State headquarters at the land-grant universities are another source.

48. Prescription Medicine Information and Education Resources

(These items from the National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) are designed to help consumers and their health care providers better communicate about prescription medicines.)

- "Community Brown Bag Medicine Starter Kit"—contains everything a local organization needs to organize, publicize and conduct a multiple medicine review for up to 50 patients including suggestions for recruiting volunteer health professionals who conduct the actual medicine review—$45.00 per kit;
- "A Parent's Guide to Medicine Use by Children"—$20.00 per pack of 100;
- "Children and America's Other Drug Problem: Guidelines for Improving Prescription Medicine Use Among Children and Teenagers" (report, 40 pages) $8.00 per copy;
- "Medicine: Before You Take It, Talk About It" brochure (especially for older consumers)—$20.00 per pack of 50;
- "Priorities and Approaches for Improving Prescription Medicine Use by Older Americans" (report, 30 pages)—$8.00 per copy;
- "Get the Answers" Personal Medical Data Wallet card (English or Spanish)—$10.00 per pack of 100;
- "Get the Answers" brochure—$20.00 per pack of 100;
- "Medicines: What Every Woman Should Know" brochure—$20.00 per pack of 100;
- "Alcohol and Medicines: Ask Before You Mix" brochure—$20.00 per pack of 100.

Make checks payable to NCPIE and mail to: NCPIE/666 11th Street, NW, Suite 810/Washington, D.C. 20001. All prices include shipping and handling. Allow 3 weeks for delivery.

49. National SAFE KIDS Campaign® Resource Catalog

A free catalog describing childhood injury prevention resources developed by the National SAFE KIDS Campaign. The catalog lists general resources for injury prevention as well as resources for preventing bike-related injuries, scald and residential fire burns, and motor vehicle related injuries. For a copy, please write to the National SAFE KIDS Campaign, 111 Michigan Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20010-2970, or call (202) 939-4993.

50. Emergency Telephone Stickers

(Stickers for your telephone with spaces to include doctor, pharmacy and poison control numbers.)

Stickers are free (limit 2 per household). Ask for information on larger orders. Send self-addressed envelope to Council on Family Health, 225 Park Avenue South, Suite 1700, New York, NY 10003.

51. Nonprescription Medicines: A Consumer's Dictionary of Terms

(A 3¼" × 9" booklet written to help consumers understand the terminology found on over-the-counter product labels, and to help them exercise judgment about how and when to self-treat. Available in English or Spanish.)

Single copies of the Consumer Dictionary are available free. Ask for information on larger orders. Council on Family Health, 225 Park Avenue South, Suite 1700, New York, NY 10003.

52. Dennis the Menace Takes a Poke at Poison (FDA 81-7005)

(A colorful poison prevention comic book, available in English and Spanish.)

Available free in single copies or bulk quantities up to 100 copies. Food and Drug Administration, HFI-40, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Note: All prices in this list are subject to change after this document is printed.

NOTICE: The Poison Prevention Week Council is not responsible for the technical accuracy of materials on this "List of Materials." Questions about individual items should be directed to the author or sponsoring organization.

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ZIP CODE WHEN ORDERING MATERIALS

Poison Prevention Week Council

Chairman:
Darla Williamson

Vice Chairman:
Evelyne McFeaters

Treasurer:
Bonnie Dean

Secretary:
Ken Giles
P.O. Box 1543
Washington, D.C. 20013
(301) 504-0580

Poison Prevention Week Council Members:

American Academy of Clinical Toxicology
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Poison Control Centers
American Association of Retired Persons
American College of Emergency Physicians
American Dental Association
American Managed Care Pharmacy Association
American Medical Association
American Nurses' Association
American Petroleum Institute
American Pharmaceutical Association
American Public Health Association
American Red Cross
American Society of Hospital Pharmacists
Art & Craft Materials Institute, Inc.
Boy Scouts of America
Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association, Inc.
Closure Manufacturers Association
Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association
Council for Responsible Nutrition
Council on Family Health
Food Marketing Institute
Girl Scouts of the United States of America
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National Association of Broadcasters
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners
NARD: Representing Independent Retail Pharmacy
National Paint and Coatings Association
National Safety Council
Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association
Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association
Soap and Detergent Association
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Extension Service
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—Food and Drug Administration, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ZIP CODE WHEN ORDERING MATERIALS

Children Act Fast. . .So Do Poisons

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Don't Let It Happen To Your Child

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Based on a concept from the
Louisiana Drug and Poison Information Center

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NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK
MARCH 20–26, 1994

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